

U.S. presses Syria on peace process

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Tuesday that Washington had no plans to take Syria off its list of countries that support "terrorism," and that he would press Damascus to make peace with Israel. "I will be telling the minister that the United States will play its full role as a partner in the peace process," said Mr. Christopher ahead of a meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa in the first Washington get-together between the top diplomats from the two countries since 1975. Asked whether Washington planned to remove Syria from its list of countries involved in "terrorism" activities around the world, Mr. Christopher said, "No." By remaining on the list, Syria will continue to be ineligible for U.S. loan guarantees to help its faltering economy, Mr. Sharaa said Syria is "committed to a just and comprehensive peace" and would work with the United States to move the peace process forward. Despite Israeli agreements with the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Jordan, Syria has not yet reached an accord with the Jewish state. (Peres urges Syria to negotiate, page 10). Damascus has denounced the Israeli-PLO agreement signed last month but said it would not seek to undermine the pact.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز يومية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Turkey revives Mideast water project

ANKARA (R) — Turkey said on Tuesday that water cooperation would help keep peace in the Middle East and dusted off a 1986 Turkish proposal for a pipeline to pump fresh water to nine countries in the region. State Minister Mehmet Golhan told an international water conference that the project to pump water from rivers in southern Turkey would serve regional stability at a time when Israelis and Palestinians were making peace. "As Israel and Palestine bury their swords... Turkey believes a reassessment of the peacewater pipeline project should be made by all countries it would serve," Mr. Golhan said. "The true meaning of the peacewater project is to prove that water can be an element of cooperation... by creating a mutual dependency on water, thus contributing to peace and stability." The peacewater project, first proposed by Turkey's late President Turgut Ozal, envisaged pumping a daily six million cubic metres of water from the Ceyhan and Seyhan rivers in southern Turkey to feed nine Middle Eastern countries. But Mr. Golhan, commenting rivers like the Tigris which flows through Iraq and the Euphrates which flows through Syria and Iraq, said Turkey did not feel obliged to meet all the water needs of downstream countries.

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U.N. reduces aid in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AFP) — The United Nations has reduced its humanitarian activities in Iraq because of insufficient funds, the coordinator of the programme, Mohammad Zejjari, said on Tuesday. "We have so far received \$150 million in direct or indirect funds but our budget for the current year called for \$489 million," Mr. Zejjari told AFP. Mr. Zejjari said 300,000 people were receiving aid in northern Iraq although the programme aimed at reaching 750,000 people. It was the same in southern Iraq where only 350,000 people out of 550,000 were getting U.N. assistance, the Moroccan diplomat said. The United Nations set up the aid programme in Iraq at the end of the Gulf war in February 1991, with funds collected from donor countries on a voluntary basis.

Libya will not bend to West — Qadhafi

TRIPOLI (AFP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi on Tuesday urged his people to confront Western plans to tighten sanctions on his country over the Lockerbie standoff. "History is renewing itself. The crusaders are beating the drums of war and we must fight those calling for confrontation," Colonel Qadhafi told a rally in Sabha, southern Libya. "Libya is not afraid of the embargo and it will not bend," he said, according to state-run television. Britain, France and the United States tabled a resolution Friday at the U.N. Security Council calling for tighter U.N. sanctions against Libya for its refusal to hand over for trial two Libyans suspected of blowing up a Pan Am airliner over the Scottish village of Lockerbie in 1988, killing 270 people (See page 2).

Clerides denounces Turkish defiance

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — President Glafcos Clerides of Cyprus said Tuesday that the long-standing partition of his island is the result of Turkish defiance of U.N. resolutions and the failure of the organisation to enforce its position. Speaking before the 48th General Assembly, Mr. Clerides said immediate "concerted action" is required by the international community to end the crisis in Cyprus, which is partitioned between ethnic Greek and Turkish communities separated by U.N. peacekeepers.

Guerrillas attack Israeli militia allies

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (R) — Guerrillas attacked an Israeli-backed militia post in South Lebanon Tuesday wounding a militiaman, security sources said. The guerrillas fired anti-tank rockets and machineguns at a hilltop South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia post at Suweida on the edge of Israel's unilateral "security zone," the sources said. One SLA militiaman was wounded in the assault. The SLA retaliated by firing heavy artillery into Iqim Al Toufah mountain ridge, a bastion of Hizbollah guerrillas just north of the buffer strip, they said. Two houses were hit in the village of Arab Salim but there was no word on casualties.

Low funds threaten Afghan repatriation

GENEVA (AFP) — U.N. refugee officials said Tuesday a shortage of funds might force them to close down their programme to repatriate Afghan refugees, with only \$150,000 in cash left for the effort. "We could actually run out of cash and shut down our repatriation programme if we do not get a quick infusion of funds," said Ekber Memeneciciglu, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) official for the region covering Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan. The UNHCR, which distributes \$25 in cash and 50 kilograms (110 pounds) of flour to every Afghan refugee on his or her return home.

Yeltsin consolidates grip, orders security crackdown

Combined agency dispatches

MOSCOW — Russian President Boris Yeltsin outlawed public meetings and sacked political opponents Tuesday in a massive security crackdown ordered to stabilise Moscow and avert further violence and political unrest.

The death toll from the two-day uprising by his conservative opponents here meanwhile was put at around 170, as civilian and military officials pieced together body counts and admitted there were still corpses inside the gutted parliament building.

Criminal proceedings began less than 24 hours after the leaders of the armed rebellion were jailed and Kremlin aides said Mr. Yeltsin was determined to act swiftly to punish persons judged responsible for the insurrection which capped an 11-day standoff between the president and the parliament he dissolved on Sept. 21. Although there were reports of isolated resistance from holdout snipers in and around the parliament building, tanks and other heavy armour used in Moscow to crush the rebellion on Monday were withdrawn from the city. In a decree, Mr. Yeltsin

announced supplementary security regulations to help enforce the state of emergency in Moscow that included restrictions on movements of people and vehicles, random identity checks and a ban on public gatherings.

The text of the decree stated the measures were necessary to "liquidate armed bandit" groups and authorised Lieutenant-General Alexander Kulikov, who was charged with enforcing the state of emergency, to use the mass media to explain the measures to the population.

Two liberal Russian newspapers were published Tuesday with several blank spots where censors had removed articles judged "dangerous" for state security and a number of hardline opposition publications were barred from publishing altogether.

The first night of the 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew — only the second such ban imposed since World War II — passed with most Muscovites hardly aware it was in force. Some 300 people were briefly detained for being on the streets without passes.

The text of the decree published on Tuesday gave police broad powers to search vehi-

cles and individuals suspected of not holding a valid "propiska" (resident's permit) for the capital.

Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov and military authorities said checkpoints would be set up to enforce the measures. Mr. Luzhkov suggested Muscovites could help "clean out" the city of criminal elements by informing on neighbours violating regulations.

Interfax news agency said Mr. Luzhkov told a meeting of senior city administration officials that the curfew would remain in force "as long as is required to restore order in the city."

"Luzhkov said Moscow would be cleaned out of people who have been living without a propiska, some for months in hotels. These include former deputies of the Russian and Soviet parliaments," the agency said.

"He suggested appealing to Muscovites to inform police about people living without permits."

A senior member of Mr. Yeltsin's administration said 89 people were killed in two days of violence on the streets of Moscow, excluding those who died when government forces attacked leaders of the com-

munist revolt in the deposed parliament.

Itar-Tass news agency said Gen. Kulikov told the meeting checkpoints would be set up from Tuesday.

Tens of thousands of police would be brought in to man them, aided by groups of civilians to act against criminals. Special permits were being issued to allow for movement through the city during curfew. Thousands of Muscovites already had to endure traffic jams caused by random checks launched on Tuesday morning on approach roads to the capital.

Some workers wanted to know how to get to their night-shifts.

Officials noted a sharp reduction in petty crime, a rarity during the Soviet era but now rampant in most Russian cities, traffic police said not a single car had been stolen.

A military spokesman earlier said a "relaxed" system had been in force overnight. The lack of passes had created confusion for factories working around the clock.

The night calm was shattered by gunfire outside the offices of Tass about six hours

(Continued on page 10)



Soldiers arrest a suspect near the Russian Parliament building Tuesday after the assault on the building (AFP photo)

Arafat and Rabin meet today in Cairo on self-rule

Combined agency dispatches

ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat will try to sort out the troublesome details of the Palestinian autonomy accord in Cairo on Wednesday, Israeli and Egyptian officials said Tuesday.

The two old men, meeting on the 20th anniversary of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, will discuss implementation of self-rule, elections to the autonomous council and the make-up of delegations to negotiate the fine print.

The autonomy deal comes into effect in the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho from Oct. 13, a month after it was signed.

Israeli Environment Minister Yossi Sarid described the meeting as "very important." "The two men will try to settle all the problems and clear up the misunderstandings," he said. "The prime minister reached the conclusion that to achieve that it was necessary to talk directly."

Mr. Arafat, who says he expects to be in Gaza by the new year, shook hands with Mr. Rabin at the White House signing ceremony in a symbolic end to decades of conflict. But the Cairo session will be their first official talks.

Mr. Rabin will meet Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in his offices in the Heliopolis suburb and then hold separate talks with Mr. Arafat at the nearby Tahra Palace, the premier's spokesman Gad Ben Ari told AFP.

"We are trying to start negotiations on the agreement within a week or so from now therefore this meeting is necessary," Mr. Ben Ari said.

In Cairo, an Egyptian official said earlier that Mr. Mubarak would also take part in the Rabin-Arafat talks. Mr. Rabin protested Satur-

day over the PLO's failure so far to name a team to negotiate the implementation of the accord with Israel.

"We have to get used to such meetings. There will be more and more of them," Agriculture Minister Yaakov Tzur said.

The declaration of principles provides only a framework for self-rule and calls for further negotiations, agreements and the establishment of committees to work out details.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) Executive Committee will name the members of the autonomous authority in the territories on Oct. 10.

"We hope the meeting will be a new starting point for the negotiations, after the spirit of the peace accord was violated by the Israeli army's repressive measures against Palestinians in the occupied territories," a PLO official associated with the talks told Reuters in Tunis. Mr. Rabin proposed the surprise meeting.

Since the signing of the accord, Israel has cracked down on Palestinians in the West Bank, netting some of Mr. Arafat's Fatah followers, while Palestinians have struck back with attacks including a suicide bombing strike on a bus.

Mr. Arafat, in a letter to Mr. Rabin last week, denounced Israeli security force operations against Palestinian activists in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as a violation of the spirit of the Sept. 13 accord.

The PLO, eager not to fuel opposition to the accord and to guard its flank from inroads by the militant Hamas, called on Israel to stop hunting activists.

The Cairo meeting comes at a key moment to improve relations between the longtime adversaries and promote confidence-building measures

necessary for implementation of the self-rule agreement in the occupied territories, the Palestinian sources said.

"The meeting will discuss the arrangements for the next negotiations and the confidence-building measures including the detainees, displaced persons, the end to daily repressive measures and removal of (East) Jerusalem's isolation," a senior PLO leader who asked not to be named told Reuters.

Mr. Arafat intends to discuss with Mr. Rabin the release of thousands of Palestinian activists detained in Israeli jails, PLO officials said.

"The release of all the detainees will have positive effects on all Palestinian families, wherever they are," the officials said.

Mr. Arafat and Mr. Rabin will also discuss arrangements for a round of talks on agreements necessary for the implementation of the peace accord, the main negotiating points are:

— Details on the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank area of Jericho starting on Dec. 13.

— Transfer of authority, starting on Oct. 13, from Israeli military and civil administration to "authorised Palestinians" in five spheres — education and culture, health, social welfare, direct taxation, and tourism.

Establishment of a Palestinian police force and of measures to prevent "disruption and disorder."

— Immediate formation of a joint Israeli-Palestinian liaison committee and an Israeli-Palestinian economic cooperation committee.

— Procedures for admission of Palestinians displaced from West Bank and Gaza Strip in

(Continued on page 5)

Mubarak gets new term, faces challenges

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Tuesday won an easy third term in office but faces opposition calls for democratic change and Islamic militants bent on toppling his government.

Interior Minister Hassan Al Alfi announced that the president swept to a new six-year term with the backing of more than 96 per cent of voters in a plebiscite on Monday.

Egyptians went to the polls in a "yes or no" presidential poll in which Mr. Mubarak, proposed by parliament, was the only candidate.

General Alfi said 96.28 per cent of the 16 million votes cast were for the president and 3.72 per cent against. Almost three million, or 16 per cent, of the country's 19 million registered voters abstained.

Mr. Mubarak, 65, who took over after his predecessor Anwar Sadat was assassinated in 1981, was re-elected twice before with more than 90 per cent of votes cast.

But opposition parties charge that the government inflates the figures.

Journalists reported several irregularities in the latest poll, notably it was not a secret ballot and that schoolchildren under the voting age of 18 were led to polling booths by their teachers.

King sends congratulations

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein Tuesday sent a cable to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak congratulating him on his reelection for a third term and wishing him continued good health and happiness.

In villages around the Muslim fundamentalist stronghold of Assiut, the turn-out was estimated as low as five per cent and the stations reserved for women were empty.

Mr. Mubarak takes the oath of office on Oct. 13. He has made the fight against Islamic militants a priority of his third term, while pledging to draw the non-violent opposition into a national dialogue.

The opposition has called for constitutional changes to allow several candidates to run for president. It has also criticised the government's human rights record, notably on the treatment of political prisoners.

Mr. Mubarak, after 12 years in power, has also failed to name a vice-president who would serve as his successor.

His strongest challenge comes from Muslim militants,

(Continued on page 3)

Somalia braced for murderous clash

Combined agency dispatches

MOGADISHU — The Somali capital braced Tuesday for a showdown between the local militia of General Mohammed Farah Aideded and the United States after a murderous battle that left several Americans believed captured.

U.N. military spokesman said at least 12 American troops were killed in Sunday's clashes with Aideded's men, while 75 were injured, totalling about a quarter of the elite contingent in the U.S. Quick Reaction Force (QRF) here.

International relief workers said more than 500 Somalis were killed or wounded in the battle.

Officials refused to speculate how many soldiers in the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) were missing since Sunday's battles, but one U.N. source in New York said they included six crew members aboard one of two Black Hawk helicopters shot down by militants.

The U.S. Defence Department would not confirm a report that seven U.S. Army Rangers were taken prisoner, one official saying "we can't be sure they're not still out there are just haven't reported back."

U.S. President Bill Clinton

admitted Monday that a "small number" of American soldiers were missing and warned that the "United States" would take "appropriate action" should any of them be mistreated.

Gen. Aideded's Somali National Alliance (SNA) showed a videotape Monday of a U.S. helicopter pilot they were holding and the militia was believed Tuesday to be trying to track down another U.N. captive in the capital.

Reports said the second soldier was "neither black nor white, but brown." A Malaysian soldier was killed in Sunday's fighting which also involved Pakistani troops.

U.N. deputy military spokesman Tim McDavitt said Tuesday that of the 12 U.S. Black Hawks that went into action on Sunday, three were hit by hostile fire apart from the host fire shot down.

U.N. troops captured a score of Gen. Aideded's military aides in the operation.

A Somali journalist said eight American soldiers were being held hostage by gunmen loyal to Gen. Aideded.

Abdul Kadir Abdi Gatale of the pro-Aideded Qaran newspaper quoted top Aideded supporters as saying the prisoners

(Continued on page 10)

Jordan determined not to let itself be used to serve Israeli economy

By Samir Shafiq
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Details of how the economic relations would be between Jordan and the autonomous Palestinian entity have not been discussed yet, but there is a broad understanding with the Palestinians on the framework for such relations, a senior official told some 500 prominent businessmen Monday night.

Dr. Jawad Al Anani, minister of state for prime ministry affairs, explained to his audience attending the 10th economic forum organised by the Jordanian Businessmen Association that economic specifics would be discussed thoroughly between the Jordanians and the Palestinians once the economic facets of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations become clearer.

The minister noted that the

declaration of principles between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) touched upon economic matters only in generality and, as such, in-depth discussions were needed between the two sides on these issues.

Dr. Anani said that Jordan could not be excluded from the scene as the Kingdom had to be directly or indirectly involved in the process with either the Israelis or the Palestinians or even with both.

"The situation therefore necessitated the decision of last week to form a Jordanian-Israeli committee which would complement the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations," Dr. Anani said.

According to the minister, the political emphasis had delayed the Palestinian negotiators from discussing economic issues with the Israelis, but, as a result of the advanced negotiations on the

Jordanian-Israeli track, the proposed Jordanian-Israeli economic committee would come into play to help achieve a Palestinian-Israeli economic arrangement that would be acceptable to the three parties involved.

Dr. Anani said it was very clear from the Israel-PLO declaration of principles that Israel was trying to keep its control on the Palestinian economy at the lowest cost and highest possible return against the will of the Palestinians and the PLO.

"Despite any decision to consolidate our ties with Palestine, we in Jordan cannot just sit with our hands tied to the Israeli presence there during the interim period which can extend for five years," he said.

He added: "If we take a negative stand watching how things would turn out, we might find ourselves after five years facing a distressful fact



Jawad Al Anani

that would force us into taking harmful political decisions that would be bruising to our economic structure which have been built by much effort and by high financing."

The minister noted that the Israeli occupation has lasted more than the period of unity between the two banks of

Jordan and stressed that "leaving things for five years without a clear role (for Jordan) would result in a larger intertwining between the Israeli and Palestinian economies."

"We will be finding ourselves negotiating, from a weak position, with both parties for an economic relationship," he said, emphasising that despite high risks, Jordan should move to build strong economic ties with the Palestinians during the five-year interim period to counter current and future Israeli economic ambitions.

He said those Israelis who describe themselves as "doves" on the political arena and show willingness to make territorial concessions would be "hawks" in insisting on compensating the "concessions" for economic gains.

"The political doves are economic hawks," he reported adding that "this is the

real danger in the (Israeli) Labour Party policy."

Dr. Anani warned against exaggerations describing Israel as a "Dracula" ready to suck in and absorb Arab economies.

"The fact is that Israel largely depends in its philosophy on seizing the opportunity to benefit from the financial resource that will be made available in the region. It also seeks to develop the ideological and practical framework for quick gain from any available opportunity," he said.

However, he added, statistics point out that if all forms of aid is to be lifted, "Israel would shrink to an economy struggling for survival just like any other neighbouring Arab country."

Yet, Dr. Anani cautioned, Israel should not be underestimated. He said Israel has unique capabilities, especially in the agricultural, medical

and water research areas.

As such, he said, "While we should not be comfortable to Israeli intentions, plans and endeavours to substitute its financial resources during wartime with other resources during peacetime, we should not exaggerate its capabilities by imagining her (Israel) as a superpower."

The minister said there was no doubt that a geographical configuration "of the region was being drawn up. It is a fait accompli; a new shape that is not being drawn by a magician's brush but rather by the parties involved in it. These parties are the ones which will define its parameters in the long term."

Dr. Anani said there were many difficult questions which could be asked but what could be predicted from the studies currently being undertaken is that the Middle

(Continued on page 6)

No progress in Lockerbie standoff

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — There was no clear sign of progress on the Lockerbie affair here Monday, with both Libya and the three Western countries refusing to back down from their positions.

Representatives of France, Britain and the United States reiterated in a meeting with U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali their position that only a firm pledge from Libya to hand over the two Lockerbie suspects would ward off the threat of stronger U.N. sanctions.

After meeting later in the day with Dr. Ghali, Libyan Foreign Minister Omar Al Muntasser said no progress had been made towards setting a date for a handover.

But he added that he hoped the issue would be resolved by the time he left New York for home on Sunday.

The three Western countries tabled a resolution Friday calling for tighter U.N. sanctions against Libya for its refusal to hand over for trial in Scotland two men suspected of blowing up a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie in 1988, killing 270 people.

But they had indicated they would not be pushing for its immediate adoption by the Security Council, in the hope that Libya would respond.

Libya has said it will allow the two men to go to Scotland, but that it cannot force them. British U.N. Ambassador Sir David Hannay said during Monday's meeting that Britain is willing to meet with the Libyan side, but only to discuss the mechanics of the handover and on the basis that Libya pledge in advance to hand the two men over within two weeks of such a meeting, diplomats said.

The three countries have also made it clear, however, that if a date for that meeting is not set by the end of the week, the three will go ahead and push for adoption of new sanctions, diplomats said.

Asked later after his half-hour meeting with Dr. Ghali if a date for such a meeting had been set, Mr. Muntasser said: "No, not yet."

But he also said his talks with Dr. Ghali had been fruitful and that they would meet again.

The Libyan minister is due to address the General Assembly on Thursday and may make a further statement on the matter then.

Asked if there had been any new developments during Monday's meeting, Mr. Muntasser responded simply "No."

In response to a question as to whether he thought he had succeeded in delaying sanctions, he replied: "Well, I hope that I have lifted" them, "that's what I'm working" for.

Apart from the Pan Am suspects, France also wants to question at least two Libyans in connection with the blowing up of a French UTA airliner over Niger in 1989 in which 170 people died.

A letter sent by Mr. Muntasser to Dr. Ghali Friday reiterated that Libya was willing to let the Lockerbie suspects go to Scotland, but did not answer the basic demand for a full commitment to a handover, diplomats said.

The U.N. Security Council imposed an air and arms embargo on Libya in April last year. The new resolution would freeze Libyan assets abroad and block delivery to Tripoli of certain oil industry-related items.

The official Libyan news agency JANA said the Libyan authorities could not force the two Lockerbie suspects to surrender.

Libya said last week it was encouraging the two, Abdul Baset Ali Mohammad Al Megrahi and Al Amin Khalifa Fhimah, to stand trial in Scotland.

But on Monday a JANA commentary said: "Libya impresses on the two suspects that they are free to stand trial in any country. It cannot force them to surrender because this would be against the principles of human rights and international law."

The agency was commenting on a statement by the French envoy to the United Nations.

The suspects' defence team, which includes at least one British lawyer, announced in a statement in London on Monday that they would meet in Tripoli, probably on Friday, to advise their clients whether or not to go to Scotland.



Somalis pose in a Mogadishu street Tuesday with what they claim to be the remains of a U.S. soldier killed during Sunday's battle (AFP photo)

United States caught in Somali trap

By Christian Chaise
Agence France Presse

LOS ANGELES — President Bill Clinton is facing one of the toughest situations since he took office as reports came in that at least one American soldier had been captured in Mogadishu.

A senior U.N. official confirmed Monday that 12 U.S. soldiers were killed, 76 were wounded and six others were reported missing in Sunday's battle with the warlord Mohammed Farah Aideded's militia in the Somali capital.

The escalating violence in Somalia has also raised doubts over U.S. participation in an eventual peacekeeping effort in Bosnia-Herzegovina, on which Mr. Clinton last week placed several conditions.

On a tour of California to plug his health-care reform package, Mr. Clinton Monday acknowledged that "a small number" of American soldiers were missing in Somalia.

Earlier in the day, Defence Secretary Les Aspin said a U.S. helicopter pilot had apparently been captured by General Aideded's men.

Despite the receding Russian crisis, Mr. Clinton still has been unable to focus on pressing domestic issues, having to promise here that he would now focus his efforts on Somalia.

It was the first time since the 1991 Gulf war that an American soldier has been taken prisoner in combat.

When former President George Bush committed U.S. troops in December to a humanitarian mission in Somalia, the U.S. ambassador in Nairobi warned that the country could become a second Beirut for the United States.

Mr. Clinton inherited the predicament, but upheld Mr. Bush's decision to save hundreds of thousands of Somalis from starvation, brought on by a protracted civil war, and declared the humanitarian mission a success.

He has also made it clear that his aim is to withdraw from Somalia as quickly as possible — the United States relinquished control of the Somali mission to the United Nations in May — while making sure the situation does not revert to what it was prior to U.S. intervention.

The United States has two equally unsatisfactory choices to make in Somalia: To withdraw and admit defeat before Gen. Aideded's forces, or stay on and risk having more of its soldiers killed — 20 have fallen so far — or captured.

Mr. Clinton must also decide whether he should negotiate with Gen. Aideded for the release of the captured American soldier.

For the time being, instead of going ahead with plans to withdraw some of the 4,000 U.S. troops in Somalia, Mr. Clinton has announced he will send in shortly 200 reinforcements backed with tanks and armoured vehicles.

"In the meanwhile, you may be sure that we will do whatever is necessary to protect our own forces in Somalia and to complete our mission there," Mr. Clinton said.

The ever deepening Somali quagmire has strengthened the hand of congressmen opposed to sending troops where no vital U.S. interests are at stake. Mr. Clinton personally echoed such feelings in his speech Sept. 27 before the U.N. General Assembly.

And a solution to the Bosnian civil war could bring matters to a head, since an international peacekeeping effort in the former Yugoslav republic would entail 50,000 troops, half that number provided by the United States. Mr. Clinton said Congress would have to approve such a move.

When Mr. Clinton in May announced he favoured air strikes against Serbian targets, many in Congress warned him of the risk in having U.S. pilots shot down and made captive in former Yugoslavia.

Kuwaitis disappointed with their parliament

By Diana Elias
The Associated Press

KUWAIT — Many Kuwaitis feel their new parliament, widely seen as a beacon of democracy in the Gulf region, has failed to deliver in the first year of its four-year term.

The 50-member Majlis Al Umma (parliament) was elected Oct. 4, 1992, in the aftermath of the Gulf war. Opposition reformers took 35 seats.

The reformers had promised to fight corruption, usher in democracy and make the Al Sabah family, which has ruled the emirate for more than 200 years, more accountable. Instead, it is seen to have compromised on key issues.

It has abandoned its push for a high-level probe into how the emirate was caught unprepared when Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990. Such a probe would inevitably reach into the royal family.

Instead, it will form a "fact-finding committee" with limited powers.

"This parliament only looks like an opposition parliament. In reality, it's pro-government," huffed Mohammed Al Jassem, a leading lawyer and political commentator.

"Kuwaitis are frustrated... most of us know that it's not proper to judge parliament after only one year, but there are many negative indications," said Mubarak Al Adwani, a liberal columnist and unsuccessful candidate last year.

He said the opposition has not been effective because of the coordination of the various factions, which range from Islamic fundamentalists to liberals, displayed during the election campaign has evaporated.

Legislators cite as one major victory a new law to protect public money, adopted after the emirate was rocked by a string of financial scandals.

But parliament's credibility has been undermined by its apparent cave-in over a potentially explosive issue — its demand for a high-level investigation into how the emirate was caught totally unprepared when Iraq invaded in August 1990.

The government is reluctant to allow any probe that would inevitably reach into the royal family and parliament has agreed only to form a "fact-finding committee" with limited powers.

But reformers know that if they push the Al Sabahs too hard, the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, could suspend parliament — as he did in 1986 when he felt it was too critical of the government.

Turkey may repeat air raids on northern Iraq

ANKARA (R) — Turkey shrugging off reports that weekend air strikes killed nine civilians in northern Iraq, said Tuesday it would repeat its raids on separatist Kurdish guerrilla targets whenever the need arose.

"In operations carried out by land and air units of our security forces against the bandit camps, the bandits were given the lesson they deserved," Prime Minister Tansu Ciller's office said in a written statement.

An Iraqi Kurdish official, Safwan Dizeyee, said on Monday that nine civilians, four of them women, had been killed and seven wounded in Turkish air and artillery attacks on two villages in northern Iraq on Saturday and Sunday.

The statement from the prime minister's office said Turkey was investigating the reports of civilian casualties, but said the operations had achieved their aims.

"In line with the principle of wiping out the bandits on the spot, these operations will be carried out whenever necessary," the statement added.

It said reconnaissance had shown that the "secessionist terrorist organization" — the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) — had been gathering forces in two border areas and had been planning to infiltrate into Turkey.

Mr. Dizeyee, Ankara-based spokesman for the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), acknowledged the presence of mobile groups of PKK fighters in the mountains of northern Iraq, but said the organisations had no bases there.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Kuwait denies choosing Apache helicopter

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has denied it had decided to buy Apache attack helicopters from McDonnell Douglas and said its armed forces were still evaluating a range of helicopters it might buy.

"They are still doing the evaluation. They are evaluating a lot of helicopters from different companies," a Defence Ministry spokesman told Reuters by telephone.

Asked about a Reuters report that Kuwait had decided to buy between 18 to 24 Apache helicopters worth around \$550 million, he said: "That is not true."

The report from Dubai quoted military experts and a Western industry source. The United Arab Emirates took delivery on Sunday of the first six of 20 Apache helicopters on order and the military experts were quoted as saying Kuwait was next in line to sign a contract to buy.

The UAE is expected to take delivery of the remaining 14 Apaches in late 1994. Under the deal McDonnell Douglas agreed to reinvest in projects in the UAE. Any sale to Kuwait would require approval by the U.S. Congress, which has in the past objected to the sale of sophisticated arms to Arab states for fear they could some day be used against Washington's close ally Israel.

Saudi Arabia and Egypt have also ordered Apaches and the United States gave Israel 24 of the helicopters out of the army's inventory after the Gulf war of 1991. The Apache is competing mainly against the Cobra made by Textron Inc's Bell Helicopter unit of the United States.

Security forces kill three in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian security forces shot dead three militants during separate searches for wanted men, official sources said on Monday. Two were killed at the weekend in Algiers and the third on Friday in Medea, 65 kilometres southwest of the capital, the official news agency said, quoting security sources.

At least 520 armed militants have been killed since last Dec. 5, when the authorities imposed a night curfew on much of Algeria to combat militant violence.

EC defers decision on observer for Cyprus

LUXEMBOURG (R) — European Community (EC) foreign ministers put off a decision on Monday on whether to send an EC observer to Cyprus to monitor progress in U.N.-brokered efforts to find a political settlement for the divided island.

"Most member states thought that a decision was premature," one diplomat said, hinting imminent elections in Greece were one of the reasons for the postponement. The ministers also agreed that formal EC membership talks could start with Cyprus only after a settlement had been found, although it would review that stand if no solution had been found by January 1995.

The ministers agreed they would continue to support U.N. efforts to find a solution and that, in the meantime, an existing association agreement would be used to strengthen links and pave the way to eventual membership talks.

Cyprus has been split since 1974 when Turkish troops seized its northern third in the wake of a short-lived coup in Nicosia backed by the military junta then ruling Greece.

Groups urge halt to U.S. Somalia operations

PARIS (R) — Two French relief groups active in Somalia called Monday for an end to U.S. military operations, saying hundreds of civilians had been killed or wounded in the latest fighting in the capital Mogadishu.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) and Physicians Without Borders (PSF) said the Digfer and Benadir hospitals in Mogadishu lacked surgeons, medicine and supplies of blood and could not treat the avalanche of casualties. The Red Cross has said at least 500 people were wounded. "AICF and PSF call for an immediate halt to military operations blindly carried out by (U.S.) Rangers and Delta Force soldiers who have already caused the death of hundreds of Somali civilians," the group said. They called on the United Nations to do its utmost to reach a negotiated settlement in Somalia. At least 13 U.S. troops were killed and 75 injured in fighting on Sunday.

Iran denounces Israel-PLO accord as a 'conspiracy'

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati denounced Monday last month's accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as a "conspiracy against Islam and Palestine."

He was referring, in a speech to the General Assembly, to an agreement for limited Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Mr. Velayati said Israel, relying on the support of a number of powerful states, had disregarded with impunity Security Council resolutions, pursued a militaristic policy, persisted in aggression and expansionism and avoided any commitment to international nuclear non-proliferation agreements.

"In our view peace, stability and mutual confidence can only return to the Middle East, and the Holy Land of peace and revelation, through serious and even-handed treatment of the root causes of the conflict, the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people," he said.

"Based on these objective historical realities, recent accords, notwithstanding the international fanfare, do not present a realistic solution to the root causes of the conflict, do not promise restoration of Palestinian rights and thus cannot establish justice, which is the only foundation of a lasting peace."

"And no one can cede Palestine on behalf of the Palestinian people or Al Quds Al Sharif on behalf of the Muslims. We consider the signing of this accord as a conspiracy against Islam and Palestine and we disagree with it."

Two militants sentenced to death in Yemen

ADEN, Yemen (AP) — A court in the province of Hadramaut has sentenced two Muslim fundamentalists convicted of terrorism to death by firing squad, court officials said Monday.

Another five of the 10 defendants received sentences ranging from five to 10 years imprisonment. Three had been acquitted.

The sentences were handed down Saturday but it took two days for the news to reach this southern port city of Aden because of poor communications in Hadramaut, 620 kilometres (385 miles) east of Aden.

Judge Mohammad Salem Al Hadidi passed the two death sentences on Saleh Omar Al Jarow and Thaniy Mosaad Bal-Harth at Al-Qatan primary court in Hadramaut.

The judge also sentenced Hassan Ben Saleh Ben Basher, Saleh Saeed Masjedi and Mohammad Obeid Husseinoun to 10 years imprisonment, while Sabri Omar Ben Dabbaj and Ramadan Moursel Ben Sanad got a five-year prison term each.

The 10 were accused of belonging to the underground Yemen Islamic Jihad, undermining state security and premeditated murder. The prosecution requested the death penalty for five, and long jail terms for the others.

The three acquitted were Yasser Mohammad Al Jarow, Adel Saleh Baksheshwan and Saleh Salem Aboulwan.

The men were detained in May, after at least one policeman was killed chasing the group. Yemen security officials said they also seized hand grenades, radio transmitters, explosives, bullets, two Kalashnikov rifles, two military uniforms, rocket-propelled grenades and religious tracts.

Hassan Hussein, the assistant interior minister, told the Associated Press last month that some members of the underground group were believed to have been volunteers in Afghanistan in the 1980s.

There they joined Mujahedeen rebels fighting Soviet troops and Kabul's communist regime.

He said they were recruited into what he called "the international Islamic jihad organisation" and said its leader was Hassan Al Turabi in Sudan.

He also accused the group of attacks on the homes of prominent political figures in the months leading to the April elections.

Police are still hunting six extremists linked to bombings of Aden hotels in December 1992. They had been jailed, but escaped earlier this year with help of a guard.

JORDAN TELEVISION

PROGRAMME TWO
17:30 Ordly
18:00 Le Vagabond Des Mers
19:15 Le Journal De L'Histoire
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Head of the Class
21:10 Documentary — Water Wars
22:00 News in English
22:30 A Woman Named Jackie

PRAYER TIMES
04:11 Fajr
08:28 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
11:24 Dhuhr
14:45 Asr
17:20 Maghreb
18:38 Isha

CHURCHES
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swefish, Tel. 510740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Saule Church Tel. 601787
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625141
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 625543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 632526
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 634328
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 604195
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 634324, 654932
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

Min./Max. temp.
Amman 14/25
Aqaba 19/31
Dera' 12/28
Jordan Valley 18/29

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29.2, Aqaba 34.3, Humidity readings: Amman 28 per cent, Aqaba 16 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Yousef Al Faqih	756988
Dr. Fakhri Tayeh	805880
Dr. Abdul Wahab Awad	846070
Dr. Basim Qaddumi	648633
Feroz pharmacy	661912
Feroz pharmacy	770336
Al Asma pharmacy	637055
Naroukh pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Shamsan pharmacy	637660
Najm pharmacy	623672
Najm pharmacy	847632
IRSID:	
Dr. Ahmad Qanu	(—)
Al Quds pharmacy	(—)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Issa Al Omari	901266
Khalil pharmacy	985417
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	891226
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	643402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	630321
Hotel Complaints	645680
Prior Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	897467
Amman Municipality	767111
Complaints	767111
Telephone Information	121
(directory assistance)	010230
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	623101
Repairs	661201
Abdullah Telephone Repairs	775111
Jordan Television	775111
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	660100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
HOSPITALS	
Electric Power	636381
Company	08-53280
RJ Flight Information	08-53280
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	08-53280
IRSID:	
Princess Basma Hospital	60327555
Grace Catholic Hospital	60327275
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital	60327400
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	60331411
FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
08:30 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
09:40 Jeddah (RJ)	
09:40 London (RJ)	
14:35 Frankfurt (RJ)	
16:55 Istanbul (RJ)	
17:25 Beirut, Paris (AF)	
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
05:45 Dubai (AZ)	
10:30 Jeddah (SA)	
11:40 Sanua (1Y)	
12:20 Cairo (MS)	
12:30 Sharjah, Doha (GF)	
16:45 Karachi, Damascus (PI)	
19:45 Beirut (ME)	
20:10 Vienna (OS)	
21:45 Larnaca (CY)	
DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
10:15 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)	
10:25 Berlin, London (RJ)	
10:50 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)	
10:50 Rome (RJ)	
19:30 Istanbul (RJ)	
19:40 Colombo (RJ)	
19:45 Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)	
20:00 Sanua (RJ)	
20:10 New Delhi (RJ)	
20:20 Aden (RJ)	
21:00 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)	
21:00 Riyadh (RJ)	
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
05:45 Beirut, Paris (AF)	

17:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)	07:05 Rome (AZ)
17:30 Brussels, Paris (RJ)	08:15 Beirut (ME)
18:10 Montreal, Toronto (RJ)	11:30 Sanua (1Y)
19:10 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)	12:00 Jeddah (SU)
19:40 Rome (RJ)	13:15 Cairo (MS)
	13:30 Abu Dhabi (GF)
	17:45 Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PI)
MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in fils per kg.	
Apple	800/600
Banana	680
Banana (Mukammal)	620
Beans	150/100
Cabbage	150/100
Carrot	350/250
Cauliflower	200/100
Cucumbers (large)	380/300
Cucumbers (small)	280/200
Eggplant	440/330
Fig	280/180
Garlic	1000/900
Grapes	380/300
Guava	560/420
Lemon	220/140
Marrow (large)	240/140
Marrow (small)	440/330
Mulukhia	200/100
Okra	1200/900
Onion (dry)	260/200
Pepper (hot)	280/200
Pepper (sweet)	450/350
Potato	120/80
Tomato	300/200
Sweet melon	300/200

Amman sets campaigning regulations

AMMAN (Petra) — In preparation for the Nov. 8 general elections the Greater Amman Municipality Tuesday announced regulations concerning the hanging of candidate campaign posters.

Candidates must obtain permission from the municipal authorities to hang posters and banners along streets or public squares, said the regulations.

Posters and banners must not obstruct traffic or the vision of motorists and should be fixed at least 50 metres away from traffic lights, the regulations stipulated.

Banners stretching across streets must be firmly fixed at least five metres above highways and four metres above the city roads, according to the regulations.

The municipality banned plastering pictures, notices, caftes, writings, photos of candidates or any election materials on the walls of homes, verandas, external walls and facades of buildings or business stores, or on traffic light or electric and telephone posts, as well as on traffic signs.

Madaba district, south of Amman, Tuesday reported that 33 voting centres in the city and surrounding villages



Campaign banners filled the streets and public squares of Amman prior to the 1989 parliamentary elections (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

have been prepared and 95 ballot boxes have been installed.

In making the announcement, Hashem Fauri, Madaba district governor, who is also head of the election committee in the area, said that 43,000 registered voters will vote to elect two Muslims and one Christian for the Madaba region which is the sixth district linked to the Amman governorate.

He said at least 20 candidates are expected to run for the seats, but meetings and visits are continuing to finalise the list of candidates.

In Mafrag governorate, with 75,489 registered voters, five candidates will be elected to Parliament.

Popular Unity Party drops out of November parliamentary race

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Popular Unity Party (PUP) Tuesday became the second political party to opt out of the race in the Nov. 8 parliamentary elections.

Citing financial constraints and a need for more long term organisation, the party's secretary general Talal Ramahi told the Jordan Times earlier this week, "we had planned to field 16 candidates, now we are fielding 8."

but we really have to look at our means and study our chances at the polls."

But a PUP announcement made available to the Jordan Times Tuesday said "the party will be withdrawing from this year's race," hoping to make a strong bid at the 1997 legislative elections.

Any party member is free to run as an independent, said the party statement.

PUP is the second of Jordan's twenty political parties to announce that it will stay out of the Nov. 8 elections.

The Arab Baath Progressive Party had announced during the summer that it would field no candidates in the fall elections.

The political events since the signing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation-Israel accord on Sept. 13, ignited a debate over whether elections should be delayed. PUP was one of several parties in favour of a delay.

But the timing of elections is unsuitable for some newly formed political parties for several reasons.

Many of the smaller political parties have said that they need at least a year or two to raise funds and establish themselves nationwide before they could successfully bid for seats in the Lower House of Parliament.

While half a dozen parties including the Islamic Action Front and the Jordanian Communist Party have already announced their candidates, most political parties spent this week in emergency sessions to formulate campaign strategies and select their candidates.

Engineering group reports 2.5% jobless among its members

AMMAN (Petra) — The unemployment rate among certified engineers 2.5 per cent, according to Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA) President Husni Abu Ghaida.

With 30,000 engineers certified by the JEA the number of unemployed is minimal, said Mr. Abu Ghaida adding that the job seekers will be able to find work after the new regulations concerning the employment of engineers in their particular specialisations are enforced.

In a statement Tuesday outlining the JEA's activities, Mr. Abu Ghaida said the association worked to and succeeded in finding work for 300 engineers.

Since the beginning of 1993, he said, JEA has arranged for the training of another 300 in the private and public sectors.

Mr. Abu Ghaida pledged that the JEA will pursue all efforts to find work for unemployed JEA members in factories, companies, contracting firms and other concerns.

Beggars, homeless to be apprehended — minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Staff vehicles will be used to pickup and transport street beggars and homeless individuals to the appropriate authorities, according to Minister of Social Development Mohammad Al Ssour.



Mohammad Al Ssour

In cooperation with the Public Security Department (PSD), ministry vehicles will be making regular rounds on the streets of the capital from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., said Dr. Ssour.

Ministry officials will process each case separately to determine which individuals are in actual need and which are simply violating city ordinances, explained the minister.

Dr. Ssour urged the public to refrain from giving beggars any assistance because, he said, encouragement means helping them to remain beggars for a lifetime.

The minister also called on the police to report to the police any beggars found loitering in their areas.

He said begging reflects a negative image of the society and opens the door to vice and immoral behaviour.

Referring to the ministry's drive to help the handicapped,

Dr. Ssour said the ministry was opening centres for their rehabilitation and has arranged with the Ministry of Education to open primary education classes for handicapped children at centres run by charitable organisations.

So far, 22 such classes have been opened and plans are under way for more, he added.

Furthermore, he said, the ministry recently opened a special office to help find jobs for handicapped persons in local factories and companies.

BAZAAR TO HELP ORPHANS: Deputising for Her Majesty Queen Zela, the Queen Mother, Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Tuesday opened a charity bazaar organised by the diplomatic corps in Amman, in cooperation with Umm Al Hussein Orphanage.

Revenues from the sales at the bazaar will benefit the orphanage's projects and activities. On display were food, clothing, wooden and silver items from Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon, Sudan, Turkey, France, the U.S., China, Japan, Korea, Spain and Italy (Petra photo)



Seminar urges amending law to benefit women tenants

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on women and habitat development organised by the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) on the occasion of World Habitat Day ended in Amman Tuesday with a call on the concerned authorities to introduce amendments to the existing Landlord and Tenant Law so that the wife and children of a tenant would have the right to continue to rent the same premises if the husband (the

signatory of the lease) moves out of the residence and if he divorces the women.

HUDD Director General Yousef Hiyasat said the delegates to the seminar called for the removal of legal barriers that prevent women from acquiring loans for development schemes.

The recommendations called for the appointment of more women in habitat and housing projects and the creation of women's unions which encourage households to save for development plans, said Mr. Hiyasat.

According to Mr. Hiyasat, the recommendations included a call for the creation of a data bank that would provide documented information about Jordanian women's activities and maintain contacts with Arab and international information centres to gather data on women's experiments in other parts of the world.

Arab-Swiss trade group visits JTCEC, Sahab estate

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the Arab-Swiss Chamber of Commerce, led by Elias Ateih, Tuesday visited the Jordan Trade Centres and Export Corporation (JTCEC), where they met with its director general, Mohammad Bani Hani.

Dr. Bani Hani briefed the group on its activities in promoting Jordanian exports and industries abroad, and holding related exhibition.

Workshop to address post-war rehabilitation projects in Mideast

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan next Saturday will host a workshop on planning and managing post-war rehabilitation programmes in the Middle East, to be attended by delegates from various regional and international organisations, according to Kamel Mahadin, head of the meeting's preparatory committee.

Recent studies in this field have revealed the lack of appropriate information about post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation projects and the inability of government institutions to carry out such programmes, added Dr. Mahadin in a statement Tuesday.

The workshop, which is being organised by the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Jordan and York University in the United Kingdom, aims to gather and document expertise related to this subject and also establish cooperation at the regional level, he noted.

Chilean travel agents to arrive for talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — An official delegation of Chilean travel agents, headed by the president of the Chilean Association of Tourism Enterprises, Onofre Urrutia, is expected to arrive in Amman today (Wednesday), according to Chile's Ambassador to Jordan, Nelson Hadad Heresi.

At the invitation of the Ministry of Tourism, Royal Jordanian (RJ) in cooperation with the Chilean embassy, the delegation will visit different tourist attractions in the Kingdom and conduct working meetings with the relevant authorities.

The purpose of the visit, said the ambassador, is to build stronger tourism exchanges between Chile and Jordan, including a proposal to begin direct flights between the two countries.

Mr. Heresi said that because of the prospects of peace in the region, there is a great interest on the part of Chilean and other Latin American tourists to visit the historic and archaeological sites in Jordan, Jerusalem and the other holy places.

Chilean travel agent delegation's visit comes as part of the Cultural and Scientific Cooperation Agreement signed recently between the governments of Jordan and Chile to promote tourism exchanges between both countries.

A reciprocal visit by a Jordanian official delegation to Chile is also planned.



INAUGURATING SPORTS EXHIBIT: Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Hussein Tuesday inaugurates an exhibition on sport supplies and equipment, educational games and materials and ready-made clothes at International Automobile Fair Complex.

The exhibition is organised by Asma Establishment for Trade Services and Organisation of Exhibitions. Taking part in the exhibition are 70 Jordanian companies and establishments.

Also Tuesday Her Highness visited the Ministry of Social Development where she met with the Minister Mohammad Al Ssour, who briefed her on the ministry's activities, particularly its efforts to ensure the development of rural women. Princess Alia discussed with Dr. Ssour prospects of enhancing cooperation between the ministry and the Rural Women's Development Society (Petra photo)

Ex-Turkish official heads for Iraq from Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Former Turkish Interior Minister Esmat Sirkin left Amman Tuesday for Iraq after a one-day stop over in the Kingdom.

Mr. Sirkin is accompanied by an international press delegation of 25 journalists.

Mubarak gets new term

(Continued from page 1)

whose battle with the authorities with the aim of setting up an Islamic state has claimed more than 200 lives since March 1992.

Mr. Mubarak has promoted Defence Minister General Mohammad Hussein Tantawi to the rank of field marshal, Cairo newspapers announced.

Field Marshal Tantawi, who distinguished himself in Egypt's Gulf war campaign, was only the fifth Egyptian army commander to win the rank in the last 40 years.

Mr. Mubarak, like all of Egypt's presidents an ex-military man himself, in recent months has stressed the loyalty of the armed forces, who are widely thought to be the most powerful group influencing politics in Egypt.

The president cultivates a civilian image but has frequently visited armed forces camps on high profile tours. The day before Monday's poll, Al Akhbar newspaper blazoned the headline, "armed forces declare their loyalty to Mubarak" across its front page.

On Tuesday, Egyptian television showed Field Marshal Tantawi, who has increasingly been seen at Mr. Mubarak's side on official tours, wearing the epaulettes of his new rank as he accompanied Mr. Mubarak to lay a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier.

Previous generals to become field marshalls gained high profiles as influential public figures.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

PSD officers leave for Croatia

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Department (PSD) Director General Maj.-Gen. Abdul Rahman Al Udwan Tuesday saw off a new group of public security personnel who left for Croatia to join the United Nations peace keeping forces. Also bidding farewell to the departing officers were the PSD director's assistants and senior officers.

designations of Fayed Al Rabie as Jordan's ambassador in Sanaa.

Cabinet approves new industries, farm debt extension

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Tuesday approved the recommendations by the Investment Promotion Committee to establish several industrial projects, including electric lamps, foodstuffs, ceramics and basic minerals and advanced engineering technologies. The Cabinet also endorsed a decision by the Development Committee to extend the grace period allowed to farmers to fully settle their debt. Under the decision, farmers who settle their debts by the end of this year will get an exemption of 25 per cent of the total debt and interest due.

Envoys to Australia, Yemen approved

AMMAN (Petra) — The Australian Government has approved Jordan's designation of Hani Tabbarh as Jordan's ambassador to Australia. The Yemeni government also approved Jordan's

AMMAN (Petra) — Former Turkish Interior Minister Esmat Sirkin left Amman Tuesday for Iraq after a one-day stop over in the Kingdom.

Mr. Sirkin is accompanied by an international press delegation of 25 journalists.

The visit to Iraq, he said, is aimed at demonstrating solidarity with the Iraqi people.

In a departure statement, Mr. Sirkin said his visit is not official and he is not carrying with him any special projects prepared by the Turkish government.

Mr. Sirkin arrived in Amman Monday en route to Iraq.

He voiced hope that Iraq will restore its role as an active and peace-loving member nation.

Save water ... every drop counts

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Art exhibition by artist Mahmoud Al-Ubaidi at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Ali Al Mi'mar at the Orfali Art Gallery. Telephone 826932.
- ★ Photographic exhibition on nature and the township of Sakeb by artist Ghassan 'Ayyasrah at the Student Affairs Department at the University of Jordan.
- ★ Exhibition of etchings by Mohammad Omar Khalil at Darat Al Fann of the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation in Jabal Leweiddeh. Also showing the permanent exhibition. Telephone 6432512.
- ★ Plastic art exhibition by artist Hussein Danseh at the Alia Art Gallery.
- ★ Caricature drawings exhibition by artists Mustafa Al Wawi and Ala' Tabash at the University of Jordan's Student Affairs Department.
- ★ Painting exhibition by artist Fateh Moudarres at the Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition entitled "Eastern Dancing — Entertainment in Spare Time" by Sigrid Bensemann at Goethe Institute.
- ★ The First International Festival of Fine Arts in Jordan entitled "Colour and Light in the Nabatean Civilisation" at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts in Jordan.

DRAMAS

- ★ Children's drama entitled "Aladdin's Lamp" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 1:00 a.m.
- ★ Folklore drama entitled "The Season" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

BOOK EXHIBITION

- ★ Comprehensive book and educational aids exhibition at the International Exhibition Hall - University Road.

FILM

- ★ Feature film entitled "The Shooting Party" at the British Council at 7:00 p.m.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

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From Russia with what?

THE FACT that the Russian people came so close to a bloody civil war but pulled from the brink at the last minute calls for a look back at what has happened in the Russian capital and to draw the right conclusions from it.

To start with, the high casualties of the bloody Monday are bound to leave a lasting imprint on the national psyche of the people. The severity of the material destruction, especially the flames that swept through the Russian parliament, presumably the bastion of the legislative branch of government, will also haunt the nation for many years to come. If it turns out that the wounds inflicted on the country by the forces loyal to president Boris Yeltsin are deep and enduring, then there is no telling when the next move of the foes will take place. Surely, though, there is bound to be some sort of reaction that could eventually lead to the downfall of the regime.

The biggest fatality of the political turned military confrontation in Moscow is democracy. Ironically, both branches of government, the executive and the legislative, were fighting for "democracy," as they respectively perceived it. Yeltsin made it clear time and again that his assault on the people's congress building was to save democracy in his country. Ousted Vice President Alexander Rutskoi and former speaker of parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov and their supporters had also been claiming that their struggle was motivated by their desire to defend democracy. Normally, the judiciary should have been allowed an opportunity to arbitrate a compromise but the chief executive was not about to heed the interference of the highest judicial organ of the nation in his bid to rid himself and his countrymen of the pro-communist elements.

The picture that had thus emerged from the latest round of struggle for power in Russia is one that suggests that pluralistic democracy in that country has been effectively dealt a fatal blow. Strangely enough, many western nations theorised that Yeltsin's victory is a big win for democracy and free economy. It appears that the world is also developing a double standard on the concept of democracy, one that is acceptable and the other that must be uprooted and liquidated. It all boils down to what the so-called new international order wants and seeks. The next thing is easy since rationalisation is a tool that can cut both ways as we have seen in not only Russia but elsewhere in the world.

So the message that emanated from Moscow is loud and clear: Democracy that may run counter to the fundamentals of the new world order must be destroyed no matter what the price. Democracy that runs parallel to the parameters of the new order can be tolerated and nurtured.

This game is bound to undermine fledgling democracies anywhere in the world.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily derided the bloody events in Moscow, ridiculing the kind of democracy Boris Yeltsin has been bragging about, with support for his actions from the western nations. Historians will write the truth about the situation and the course of events and also about the western style terrorist democracy Mr. Yeltsin has practised against the representatives of the people of Russia, said the daily. Historians will find it easy to give a right description of the downfall of morals and values in an era when masses are slaughtered and when democracy is raped, said the daily. Nations of the world watched passively as the military tanks and the heavy guns rained fire and bullets on the representatives of the Russian people and no finger was lifted in support of the views of those deputies who are supposedly representatives of the views of the Russian people, added the paper. Had Mr. Yeltsin been inside the parliament house, surrounded by the troops and the tanks, the western nations would have raised the hue and cry and would have accused the deputies of being anti-democratic, but it seems that the situation is different when Mr. Yeltsin, the friend of the West, is sending murderers to kill the representatives of the people, continued the daily.

COMMENTING on the situation in Russia a columnist in Al Dustour daily said that the so-called new world order is using itself on Russia and the Russian people, as it did before in the Middle East. Mazen Hammad said that justice has been dealt a heavy blow in Russia as it did in the Arab region. The West succeeded in bringing down the Soviet empire and is trying to subdue the will of the Russian people exactly as it did with the Arab World which has lost its military power and has become a tool in the hands of the U.S.-led western coalition, said Hammad.

Into Somalia — 'a dreadful error of American policy'

By George F. Kennan

PRINCETON, New Jersey — The following is an item, dated Dec. 9, 1992, in my personal diary, which I have kept intermittently for most of my life.

When I woke up this morning, I found the television screen showing live pictures of the Marines going ashore, in the grey dawn of another African day, in Somalia.

It is clear that with a very large part of the American public, but particularly with that part of the public that (speaks) or writes on public affairs, and — not last — with the political establishment, there is general support for this venture.

There was no proper public discussion, not even a congressional discussion, of this undertaking before the president, only a few days ago, announced his intention to launch it.

It would be idle for me or for anyone else to come out publicly at this point with a questioning of the wisdom of this intervention. The action is already in progress.

Anything that might be said in criticism of its rationale would have no practical effect in any case and, to the extent that it attracted any public attention, would be received as something tending to demoralise the forces now in action by sowing doubt as to the worthiness of the effort in which they are now involved.

I see, therefore, no advantage to be gained by trying to say anything publicly about what is going on. On the other hand, I regard this move as a dreadful error of American policy; and I think that in justice to myself I should set down at this point, if only for the diary, my reasons for this view.

The purpose of this exercise is, we are told, to take charge of the channels of transportation and to assure the movement of food to certain aggregations of starving people.

The reasons why we must do this are, in the official and widely accepted view, that the people are starving, that this is outrageous and intolerable; but that food cannot be brought to them in adequate amounts because the supply lines by which it would have to be delivered are subject to harassment on the part of armed bands and individuals along the way, as a result of which much of the food is plundered and lost before it can reach its destination.

How many of these congregations of starving people

there are, and where they are situated, seems not to have been clearly explained; perhaps our people do not even know.

Why, then, is our action undesirable?

First, because it treats only a limited and short-term aspect of what is really a much wider and deeper problem.

The idea seems to be that when we have made possible the original delivery of the food that has already been shipped or is being shipped to Somalia, our forces will be withdrawn, and the United Nations, using other forces, will assure the further supplying of these people.

This last seems to me highly uncertain, and even doubtful. The situation we are trying to correct has its roots in the fact that the people of Somalia are wholly unable to govern themselves and that the entire territory is simply without a government.

The starvation that we are seeing on television is partly the result of drought (or so we are told), partly of overpopulation, and partly of the chaotic conditions flowing from the absence of any governmental authority.

What we are doing holds out

no hope of coming to terms with any of those situations. If we are to withdraw at any early date (and the president has spoken about the possibility of withdrawal before the end of January), these determining conditions will remain exactly as they were before.

The marauding bands and individuals will resume their activity, and in the absence of any strong foreign military force there will be no stopping them.

Beyond that, the problem of starvation is one that reaches much farther than the aggregations of people we have seen on television.

As one of the nurses pointed out, these wretched people are among the more fortunate, as is shown by the fact that they were able to walk to the place where they are collected. There are presumably, further afield, even greater numbers of people who never showed up there because they were too weak to walk at all. They, of course, are not touched by our action.

The fact is that this dreadful situation cannot possibly be put to rights other than by the establishment of a governing power for the entire territory, and a very ruthless, determined one at that. It could not be a democratic one because

the very prerequisites for a democratic political system do not exist among the people in question. Our action holds no promise of correcting this situation.

The upshot of all this is that what we are undertaking will assure at best a temporary relief for those people who are gathered together in the camps, and probably a relief that will not be completed before our own departure, unless we propose to keep our forces there for many months, if not years, in the future.

Secondly, this is an immensely expensive effort. What we are pouring into it must run, in the monetary sense, into hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars.

This comes at a time when our country is very deeply indebted and (when) it is not even able to meet its own budget without further borrowing. This entire costly venture is then, like so many other things we are doing to be paid for by our children — the coming generation.

Meanwhile, there are many needs at home, particularly in the condition of our cities and of the physical infrastructure of our society, which are not being met, ostensibly for lack of money.

All this being the case, one is moved to inquire into the inspiration and rationale of this enterprise.

On Mr. Bush's part, one must assume that the reasons lay largely in his memories of the political success of the move into the Gulf, and in the hope that another venture of this nature would arouse a similar public enthusiasm, permitting him to leave his presidential office with a certain halo of glory as a military leader using our forces to correct deplorable situations outside our country.

The action, (taken) during the interregnum between two administrations, obviously saddles his successor with the task of completing it, albeit without responsibility for its origin.

The dispatch of American armed forces to a seat of operations in a place far from our own shores, and this for what is actually a major police action in another country and in a situation where no defensive American interest is involved — this, obviously, is something that the Founding Fathers of this country never envisaged or would ever have approved.

If this is in the American tradition, then it is a very recent tradition, and one quite out (of) accord with the gener-

al assumptions that have governed American public life for most of the last 200 years.

I have already pointed to the absence of any prior discussion in Congress of the undertaking. This raises the question, Why, then, so suddenly and without any preparation in public or political opinion?

If the president thought it wise to use our armed forces for this purpose, why did he not say so weeks or months ago and lay the question squarely before Congress and public opinion? The answer is obvious: the paralysis of government that has existed for the last six months — before and after the election. This is in itself significant.

But an even more significant question is that of the reason for the general acceptance by Congress and the public (of) what is being done.

There can be no question that the reason for this acceptance lies primarily with the exposure of the Somalia situation by the American media, above all, television.

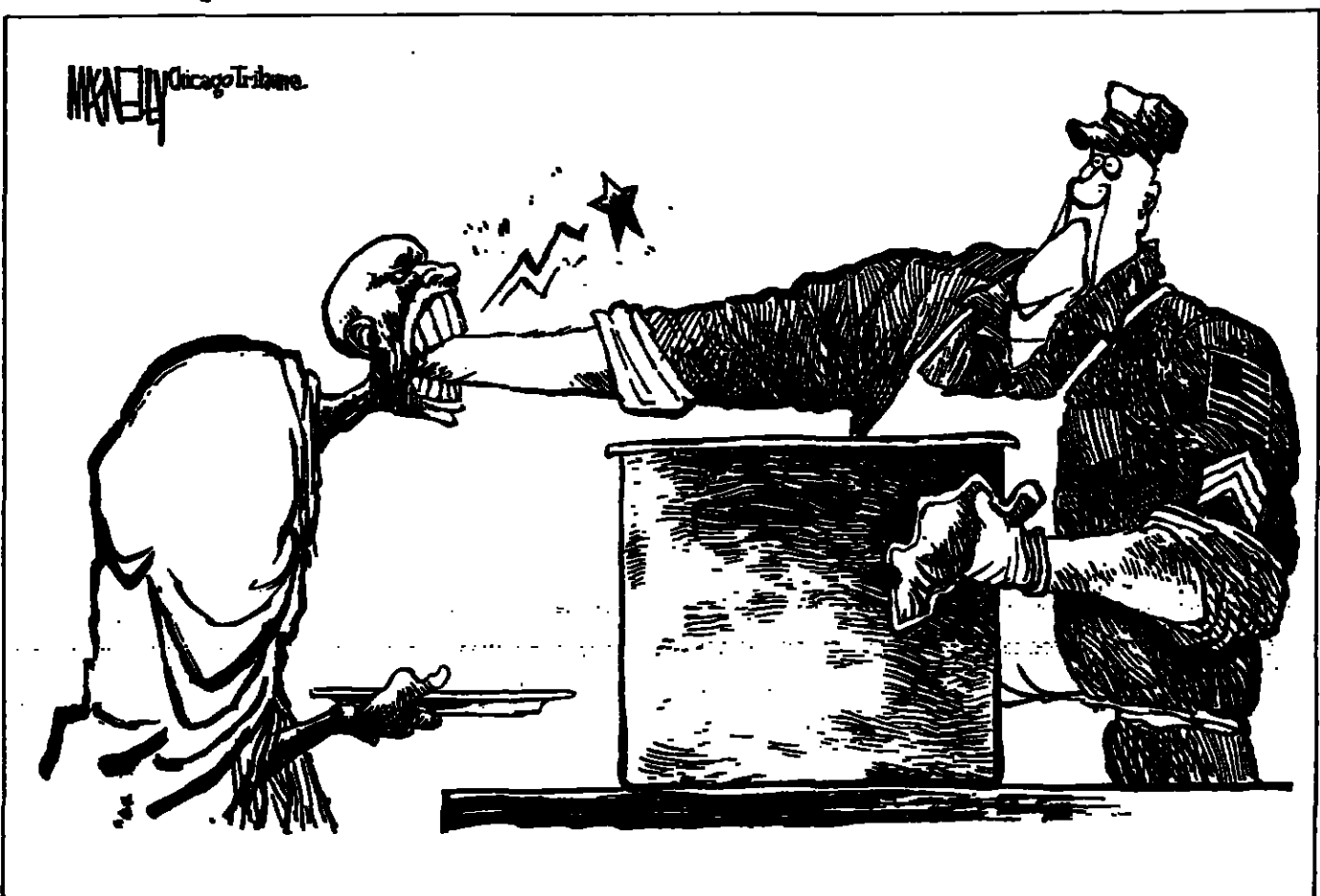
The reaction would have been unthinkable without this exposure. The reaction was an emotional one, occasioned by the sight of the suffering of the starving people in question.

That this should be felt as adequate reason for our military action does credit, no doubt, to the idealism of the American people and to their ready sympathy for people suffering in another part of the world.

But this is an emotional reaction, not a thoughtful or deliberate one. It is one which was not under any deliberate and thoughtful control — one that was not really under our control at all.

But if American policy from here on out, particularly policy involving the uses of our armed forces abroad, is to be controlled by popular emotional impulses, and particularly ones provoked by the commercial television industry, then there is no place — not only for myself, but for what have traditionally been regarded as the responsible deliberative organs of our government, in both executive and legislative branches.

The writer, author most recently of "Around the Cragged Hill: A Personal and Political Philosophy," is a former ambassador to the Soviet Union and a professor emeritus at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. This article is reprinted from The New York Times.



Questions remain about Clinton's foreign policy

By Dr. James Zogby

LAST WEEK the U.S. president and his three top foreign policy advisors delivered major addresses designed to clarify the principles and purposes behind the administration's foreign policy. The speeches of Bill Clinton, Secretary of State Warren Christopher, National Security Advisor Anthony Lake and United Nations Ambassador Madeleine Albright were thoughtful, well-crafted and complementary — but left critics unsatisfied.

President Clinton's address before the U.N. General Assembly was cleverly wrought to respond to American isolationists.

He spoke, as President Bush had, of the drama of the post cold war world. "It is clear," he noted, "that we live at a turning point in human history. Immense and promising changes seem to wash over us every day. The cold war is over. The world is no longer divided into two armed and angry camps. Dozens of new democracies have been born. It is a moment of miracles."

At the same time, Mr. Clinton noted that this new world faces dangerous new challenges. These challenges emerge "from within nations" where "bloody ethnic, religious and civil wars" have erupted. These conflicts, coupled with the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, unchecked hunger and disease and poverty combine to create tinderboxes which can explode into devastating and destabilizing regional conflicts.

The response of the world community to these conflicts, Mr. Clinton said, must be: economic development (in particular the expansion and strengthening of the world community of market-based democracies), halting the spread of weapons of mass destruction and the reinforcement of international mechanisms that aid in conflict resolution.

Throughout his remarks Mr.

Clinton asserted that the U.S. "intends to remain engaged and leading. We cannot solve every problem but we must and we will serve as a fulcrum for change and a pivot point for peace."

In his remarks before the prestigious Council on Foreign Relations, Secretary of State Christopher had, a week earlier, presaged the president's heralding of the end of the cold war. Using the dramatic signing of the Israel-PLO agreement at the White House as a starting point, he noted that the end of the bipolar world had made possible recent developments in the search for a comprehensive peace.

Again, using the example of the Middle East peace process, Mr. Christopher also took aim at America's isolationists.

In the debate between engagement and isolation, Mr. Christopher said "the U.S. chooses engagement." The end of the cold war, he said, "has not ended America's links to the world." Rather, it has left the U.S. with a "continuing responsibility to provide leadership."

Reasons for engagement, according to Mr. Christopher, are simple: economic interests and national security. And he provided arguments and elaboration for each.

In response to another issue being actively debated in the U.S., specifically whether the U.S. should exercise its power alone or with others, Mr. Christopher noted that it is incorrect to frame this as an "either-or" proposition. "Multilateralism," he stated, "is a means, not an end. It is one of the many foreign policy tools at our disposal. And it is warranted only when it serves the central purpose of American foreign policy: to protect American interests. This country will NEVER subcontract its foreign policy to another power or person."

Mr. Christopher also stated that, in protecting its interests, "the U.S. must maintain its

military strength and reinvigorate its economy so that we can retain the option to act alone.... Let no one doubt the resolve of the U.S. to protect its vital interests. Yet in protecting our vital interests, we should not ignore the value of working with other nations."

The most developed of the four foreign policy statements was delivered by President Clinton's National Security Advisor Anthony Lake. His address, delivered on Sept. 21, (the day after Mr. Christopher's) to the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, was entitled "From Containment to Enlargement."

Like the president and the secretary of state, Mr. Lake tried through his address to take aim at the U.S. isolationists on the left and the right.

After outlining the areas where the Clinton administration had responded to the imperative of international engagement, he noted that "engagement was not enough." Rather, Mr. Lake asserted, "We also need to communicate anew why that engagement is essential. If we do not, our government's reactions to foreign events can seem disconnected; individual setbacks may appear to define the whole; public support for our engagement likely would wane; and America could be harmed by a rise in protectionism, a loss of the resources necessary for our diplomacy — and thus the erosion of U.S. influence abroad."

And so Mr. Lake stated that the purpose of his address would be to contribute to a "national dialogue about OUR PURPOSE IN THE WORLD."

He began by defining what he termed American "core concepts" — democracy and market economies — and then argued that as America moves into the post-cold war world its purpose must shift from a policy of containment of the ene-

mies of democracy (the Soviet Union and its allies) to a strategy of enlargement of the world's community of free market democracies.

Mr. Lake outlined four components of this new strategy: "First, we should strengthen the community of major market democracies — including our own...."

"Second, we should help foster and consolidate new democracies and market economies, where possible, especially in states of special significance and opportunity."

"Third, we must counter the aggression — and support the liberalisation — of states hostile to democracy and markets."

"Fourth, we need to pursue our humanitarian agenda not only by providing aid, but also by working to help democracy and market economies take root in regions of greatest humanitarian concern."

Since neither Mr. Clinton nor Mr. Christopher focused on the two most difficult foreign policy issues of the day — Bosnia and Somalia — Mr. Lake used the end of his address to wade into those troubled waters.

He began with an important qualifying comment, when he stated: "Our efforts in Somalia and Bosnia are important expressions of our overall engagement; but they do not by themselves define our broader strategy in the world."

And after reviewing the problems of Bosnia and Somalia that the Clinton administration inherited from the Bush administration, Mr. Lake sought to establish that failures in either case should not define policy in the future. "Unfortunately," he notes, "debates over both Bosnia and Somalia have been cast as doctrinal matters involving the role of multilateralism. This focus is misplaced. Certainly, in each case our actions are making multilateral case law for the future. But we should not let the particular debate of the doctrinal.... I believe strongly that

our foreign policies must marry principle and pragmatism. We should be principled about our support, but pragmatic about our means."

And, he concluded, as an echo to Christopher, "We should act multilaterally where doing so advances our interests — and we should act unilaterally when THAT will serve our purpose. The simple question in each case is this: what works best?"

Reverberations of the same ambiguity sounded in U.N. Ambassador Madeleine Albright's speech as she was left to address, in detail, the U.S.'s conditions for participation in international peacekeeping efforts.

"This administration," she said, "believes... that young men and women should not be sent in harm's way without a clear mission, competent commanders, sensible rules of engagement and the means required to get the job done."

While the U.S. had not completed its review of its overall policy toward U.N. peacekeeping efforts, Ms. Albright enumerated a number of questions that need answers: Does the mission have clear, definable objectives? Is a ceasefire in place, and have the parties agreed to a U.N. presence? Are the necessary financial and human resources available? Can specific "end points" for U.N. involvement be identified?

Finally, in what some felt was an avoidance of a clearcut policy, she ended her address by stating the U.S. will approach international conflicts "on a case by case basis, relying on diplomacy when possible, on force when absolutely necessary."

In fairness to the Clinton administration, the real problem is that they are attempting to define the underlying principles of a new policy while simultaneously confronting two complex and bedeviling old problems, namely Somalia and Bosnia.

That said, in the end foreign policy analysts and critics of the administration have charged that as thoughtful and well-crafted as the addresses had been, they had not collectively produced a coherent response to these two real challenges of the post-cold war world.

There is no doubt that the world is entering a new era, but with the morasses of Bosnia and Somalia (and the host of potential Bosnias and Somalias that the "new world order" may yet unleash), the U.S. seems to be stuck in the doorway, unable to fully enter the new phase.

The Clinton administration must be credited for facing the isolationist challenge and defending the principle of U.S. engagement. In doing so, they are challenging the isolationist leanings of many members of Congress who would prefer to address only the local needs of their constituents. And by understanding the links between U.S. economic growth and an engaged U.S. foreign policy, the Clinton administration is providing the necessary argument for justifying an engaged foreign policy to an American public that seems reticent to deal with the world's problems.

But by implying that the U.S. would not become engaged or should possibly disengage from the two most troubling conflicts it faces, the administration left critics wondering "if not Bosnia, then when and where; and if not Somalia, how?"

Without a defence of engagement in these two cases, as one critic noted, "all we have are generalisations and abstractions — not yet an indication of what real policy might be."

The writer is the president of the Washington-based Arab American Institute. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

Shining Path wages war on Indians in Peru's Amazon jungle

By Monte Hayes
The Associated Press

CUTIVIRENI, Peru — The young Maoist rebels nailed Indian leader Mario Zumaeta naked to a cross, gouged out his eyes, cut out his tongue and castrated him. Finally, they disemboweled him, jeering, "where is your God now?"

The atrocity by Sendero Luminoso — the Shining Path — came during an attack on Cutivireni, an isolated Franciscan mission on the Ene River in Peru's eastern Amazon jungle, in November 1989.

The mission's destruction marked the beginning of a savage war on the Ashaninka Indian nation, whose 50,000 members make it one of the largest Indian groups in South America's tropical forests.

Today Cutivireni is a lonely outpost for about 80 soldiers and a camp for 900 Ashaninka who have sought refuge from the guerrillas.

In the middle of what the Indians call the "red zone," it can be reached only by small plane or helicopter. The rebels control the forest and the Ene River, which once linked Ashaninka villages. Even the army dares not venture onto the Ene.

The Shining Path has managed what Spanish conquistadors, rubber barons and waves of land-hungry settlers from the Andean highlands were unable to do — enslave thousands of Ashaninka, who have lived free as the wind for centuries in their remote rain forest.

"They are innocent in the truly biblical sense," said the Rev. Mariano Gagnon, a Roman Catholic missionary from New England who worked at Cutivireni for 22 years until he was forced out.

"They take you at face value. They can't think you are lying to them."

That worked in the Shining Path's favour. As they did a decade earlier with Quechua-speaking peasants in the Andean highlands, the rebels spent years indoctrinating bilingual teachers, who enjoy great respect in Indian villages. The teachers in turn convinced many Ashaninka that armed revolution would halt centuries of white exploitation.

"They promised the most beautiful things," said Jaime Velasquez, 34, a teacher at Cutivireni and a spokesman for the refugees. "They said we would have highways, planes, big businesses, good homes. Instead, they brought death, destruction, more poverty."

Shining Path guerrillas arrived in the rain forest in the mid-1980s, escaping an army crackdown in the highlands, the birthplace of the movement.

In 1989, rebel leaders decided the time had come to force the Ashaninka to join the armed struggle.

Some clans got away, slipping deeper into the rain forest, a rugged region of mist-shrouded gorges and thundering waterfalls. Indians who were unable to escape and refused to take up arms were slain or forced into slavery to grow food for the rebels.

"They told us: 'If you do not join us, then we will have to kill you and your children and anybody related to you because that means your semen is for the rich,'" said Pablo Mejia, 34, who spent four years with the Shining Path until he escaped with his family last May.

Since 1989, the guerrillas have killed as many as 1,000 Indians. In a single night in August they hacked to death at

least 55 men, women and children in attacks on a half-dozen villages.

"Sendero had to commit genocide before the government turned its eyes to this region," said Carlos Mora, an anthropologist who worked with the Ashaninka until it became too dangerous.

The army entered the Ene valley in mid-1991 and established a base in the ruins of the burned Cutivireni mission.

Soon small groups of Ashaninka — emaciated, half-starved, diseased — began emerging from the forest and begging for refuge.

Some 6,000 Ashaninka have escaped from the Shining Path's control or have been rescued by mixed army-Indian patrols since 1991. But 5,000 are believed still in the hands of the rebels.

An estimated 300 battle-hardened, heavily armed guerrillas

plus Ashaninka warriors won over to revolution roam the jungle that encircles Cutivireni and other camps.

On a recent evening, three dozen Ashaninka men armed with shotguns and bows with jagged arrows lined up in three rows under palm trees at this post, located on a plateau. After a few minutes they padded off softly on bare feet along a narrow trail to the jungle 200 feet below.

The militiamen patrolled until dawn, on the alert for guerrillas.

The patrols have brought a degree of tranquillity to the Ashaninka gathered here. But the crowded conditions have meant new problems.

Accustomed to living in scattered villages of several dozen families, the Ashaninka have few defenses against diseases like influenza, malaria and cholera. An outbreak of measles killed 26 people at the camp last year.

Nevertheless, the Ashaninka in Cutivireni are slowly recovering a semblance of normal life. They live in thatched-roof, open-sided huts and sleep on raised wooden platforms or straw mats.

Most of the camp wakens at 4 a.m. to the sound of soft pounding. The women already are at work in the dark beating wads of cotton to extract thread for weaving "cushmas," the loose, ankle-length robes worn by both men and women. Before dawn they stir the fires to begin boiling yucca roots, the staple of the Ashaninka diet.

The men have cleared fields nearby to grow yucca, plantain and beans. They also have begun to venture out again to fish and hunt, but they do not stray far. The danger of an ambush is ever present.

The Ashaninka have proud-

ly clung to their language and customs long after other jungle tribes were absorbed into western culture. But the outside world is intruding little by little.

Women still paint their faces in dots and stripes with a red paste from the achote plant. But some of the men now prefer shorts and donated T-shirts with batman symbols and similar motifs. A few even have Reebok sneakers.

Small boys carve finely detailed wooden models of the single-engine planes that deliver food and medicine donated by the Catholic Church.

In May, the government installed a satellite dish to provide television for the children. Every evening the soldiers put a TV set at the edge of what was once the mission's central square.

On a recent night dozens of small boys and girls huddled in front of the beaming light. They stared intently as Popeye the sailor saved Olive Oyl for the 10th time, sometimes whispering but seldom laughing.

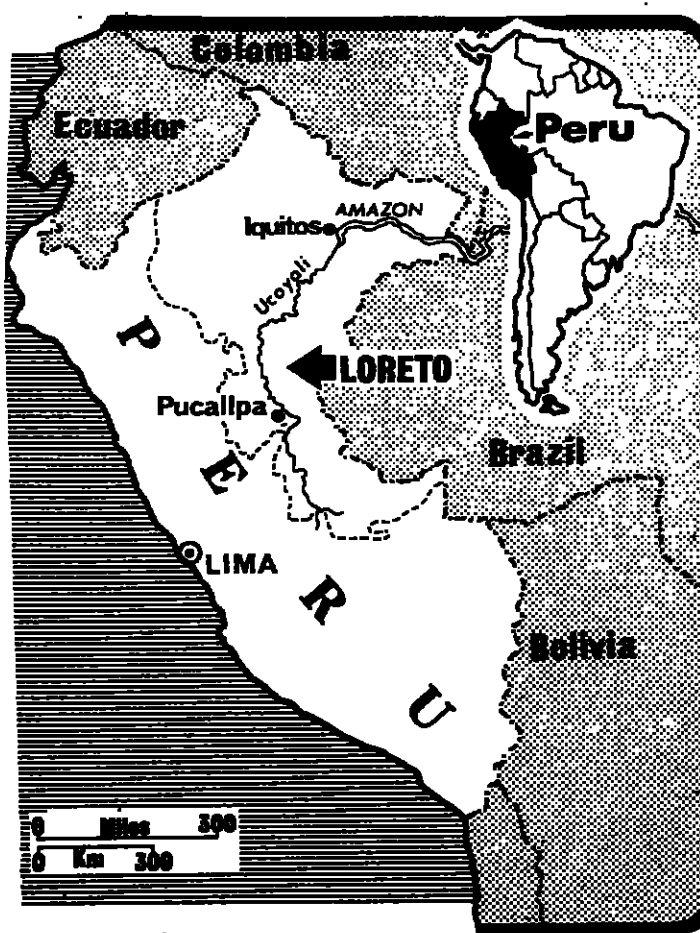
Octavio Zolezzi, an ecologist working to have the Ashaninka homeland turned into a national park, shook his head.

"They see the fantasy world of television and they begin to demand things — watches, radios, jewelry. They become consumers."

As the Ashaninka struggle to ward off the Shining Path's onslaught and remain true to their way of life, more storm clouds are gathering.

They have learned that 1,500 settlers are organising a land rush into the Ene valley if the guerrillas are driven out.

"We are not at war with Sendero only to give up our land afterwards to settlers," said Mr. Velasquez, the teacher. "We will not tolerate that. That means more war."



Spain's dwindling wild bears lie low to survive

By Julia Hayley
Reuters

POLA DE SOMIEDO, Spain — Spain's last brown bears, hidden deep in the Cantabrian Mountains, are too shy to be a tourist attraction. They have to be to survive.

They should have been out at dawn, feeding on blueberries around the tree-line, but the only traces of their presence after a chilly morning vigil were two-day-old droppings and stones overturned to get at the grubs underneath.

"It's the most timid ones that have survived," said Javier Naves, a biologist who has spent 12 years studying Spain's last wild brown bears.

Mr. Naves knows their lairs, the places where they are likely to feed in the early morning and the rocks on which they could be sleeping at dusk, but he has not seen one since June.

The bears are practically impossible to photograph. "They'll come within 20 metres of people who are busy with everyday tasks like chopping wood or ploughing, but if you try to sneak up on them they are off like a shot," he said.

Nearly all the published photos of bears have been taken in captivity. A film crew spent three weeks in the Somiedo natural park and shot three minutes of usable footage.

Bears used to roam the whole of the Iberian Peninsula but now survive only in two isolated parts of the Cantabrian mountains in the north with a handful — too few to be a sustainable population — on the French side of the Pyrenees.

Mr. Naves, who has spent months tracking and plotting the Cantabrian bears, estimates there are between 70 and 90 left in Spain. The only others in western Europe are in the Abruzzo Mountains in Italy.

"I think the population is shrinking. Ten years ago almost twice as many females were breeding. Now there are only about six-sets of cubs in the Cantabrian Mountains."

Females with cubs are the easiest to find. The males, which weigh up to 200 kilograms, tend to lead solitary lives and are more mobile. Brown bears can live up to 25 years in the wild and females produce two or three cubs about every three years.

Like most wild animals, man is their worst enemy. Mr. Naves and his fellow researchers from Oviedo University believe about 30 have been shot by poachers, trapped, snared or poisoned since 1980.

Bears, like the Iberian lynx and the Pyrenean goat, are endangered and therefore protected but wolves, wild boar and chamois abound among

the peaks overlooking Spain's north coast.

"People don't usually go out with the aim of shooting a bear," Mr. Naves said. "But if they are sitting waiting for a deer and a bear appears they'll kill it."

Police have seized several bear pelts in the area in recent years. A man was almost jailed for murder when civil guards found a salted corpse in a barrel. He was let off with a fine once he proved what looked like a human hand was a bear paw.

Conservationists in Asturias Province are trying to persuade hunting associations to expel members who kill endangered animals but the region has a strong hunting tradition and there is a widespread feeling that bears, like wolves, are dangerous and therefore fair game.

Bear attacks are rare — only three or four in memory and those almost exclusively when humans have approached a mother with cubs.

Cantabrian bears are generally vegetarian, eating spring grass, blueberries, blackberries and other fruit in summer and predominantly nuts such as chestnuts and acorns the rest of the year, supplemented with insects and occasionally meat if they come across a dead deer.

Their sweet tooth sometimes leads to conflict with humans. Asturias has a thriving honey industry and bears like to raid beehives despite protective walls or location on cliff ledges, traditional defence against sugar-hungry beasts.

But damage caused by bears is negligible. Wolves kill about 800 head of livestock a year in the area and wild boar trample millions of pesetas' worth of crops, according to data from the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Bears can live alongside man. The Oviedo team's research shows they are repopulating parts of the western mountains, where there are more people but food supplies are plentiful, and are contracting in the more isolated eastern region.

The western area, centred on the Somiedo natural park which has probably the highest concentration of bears in the area, is developing fast and struggling cattle farmers are turning to less bear-friendly livelihoods.

A decade ago only eight of the 37 villages within the park were connected by paved roads. Now nearly all of them are.

Roads, power plants, logging and tourism all threaten the bears' habitat, but Mr. Naves believes this is controllable.

"If there's no hunting, I think they'll survive for a long time," he said.

The promise and pitfalls of gene therapy

By Jane E. Brody

NEW YORK — It is not surprising that gene therapy is getting mixed reviews. Although hailed by many as the most exciting medical development since the discovery of antibiotics, it is also a source of concern and even fear.

For gene therapy involves a kind of manipulation that in theory can give doctors and scientists the tools to make changes in the genetic blueprint that is the physical essence of all living things.

Frightening images of Dr. Frankenstein and his monster or, more realistically, the Nazis' attempt to create a master race haunt those who are concerned about this remarkable new ability to manipulate genes. They worry about sinister possibilities, like trying to eliminate a predisposition to homosexuality or to being short or any characteristic viewed as undesirable by parents or by scientists in control of the technology.

Even some leaders in the field are apprehensive about the speed with which gene therapy seems to be developing. They are worried that rapid innovation will outstrip the pace of safety checks needed if the techniques are to be widely applied.

A U.S. federal regulation is already in place to permit the premature use of gene therapy in "desperate cases" before the treatment has been adequately studied for safety and effectiveness.

Every technological innovation, from antibiotics to atomic power, has presented the possibility for misuse. Guidelines and safeguards will eventually

have to be established for gene therapy, but for now it is important that the public understands what it is all about as well as its extraordinary potential for good, and not just its possible dark side.

Gene therapy is the logical extension of two quantum leaps in modern genetics: the identification of specific fragments of DNA that dictate production of particular proteins or that modify the expression of other genes, and the ability to insert those fragments into disarmed viruses or other vehicles that can transport them into living beings without the complications of sexual reproduction and with-

out having to wait a generation to fix a genetic wrong.

Gene therapy involves changes in the somatic, or body, cells, not in the sperm or egg. Its effects are therefore limited to the person being treated and cannot be passed on to future generations.

The concept of supplying living beings with substitute genes grew out of the study of tumor viruses. These retroviruses, as they are known, can invade normal cells without killing them. Instead they transform the cells by inserting viral genes into the cells' genetic material. And, when necessary, the viruses can be directed to unload their cargo

in specific types of cells.

A variety of biochemical tools are used in gene therapy, and many others are sure to be developed in the near future. For example, to get a gene into the brain, gene therapists are using a modified herpes virus that has a predilection for nervous system tissue.

The virus vector has been changed so that it cannot reproduce but can still infect cells and deliver its therapeutic gene cargo. In other cases, modified tumor viruses or fatty particles called liposomes are used as the carrier; for example, to insert genes that can stimulate an immunological reaction to a

cancer.

Through gene therapy, a person can be supplied with a healthy, functioning gene to compensate for a missing or defective one, experimentally cystic fibrosis, for example, and potentially for sickle-cell anemia.

There are 4,000 such genetic disorders, all of which in theory may be amenable to correction through gene therapy.

There are also a number of serious disorders that, though not inherited in a one-gene fashion, run in families. Like heart disease, breast and colon cancers, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease.

As more is known about hereditary components of these disorders, it may be possible to alter their course by introducing genes that prevent the disorders by modifying the action of the damaging genes.

Then there are conditions like Parkinson's disease and insulin-dependent diabetes in which certain organs have lost the ability to produce a needed substance. Genes that correct these deficiencies might be introduced into the appropriate tissue.

Perhaps most exciting is the possibility, already showing some success in hopeless cancers, of modifying the body's immunological responses through gene therapy. In the case of cancer, this means overcoming the disguises that protect cancer cells from immunological rejection.

Another approach to cancer would be the introduction into tumours of viral "suicide" genes that render the cells vulnerable to antiviral drugs, a technique that has proved

highly successful in animals.

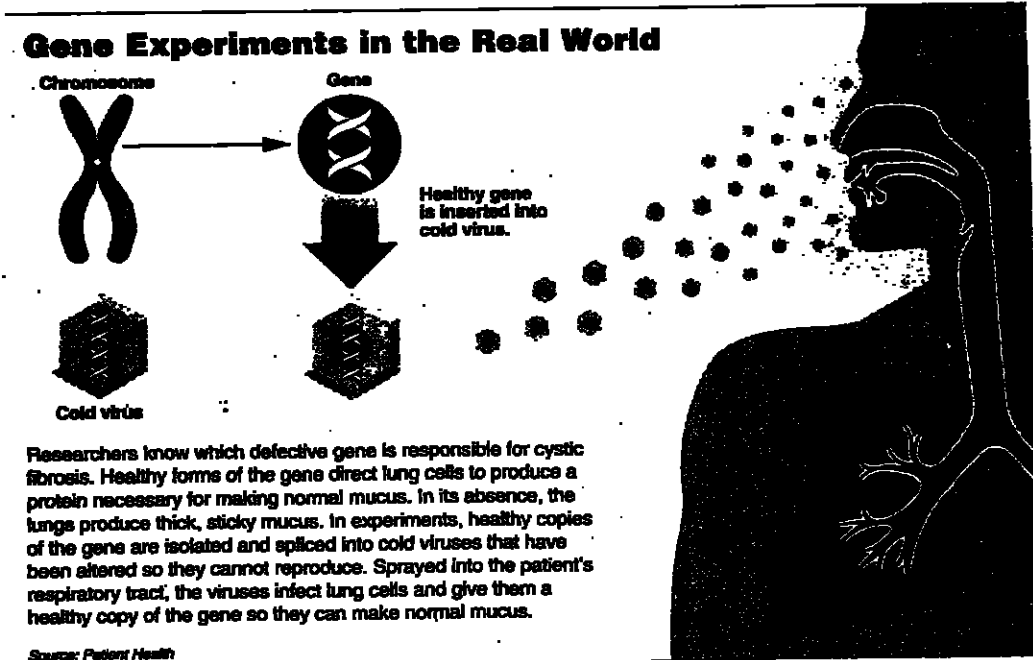
Studies described last spring showed that a very promising "by-stander" effect was at work; neighbouring cancer cells not infected by the suicide gene also became vulnerable to antiviral therapy.

Practical gene therapy is less than three years old. In September 1990, doctors at the National Institutes of Health used gene therapy for the first time to correct an inherited and invariably fatal immunologic disorder in a 4-year-old girl from Cleveland. The treatment worked better than even the researchers had expected, and the child was able to start school the next year with a fully functioning immune system.

But while gene therapy has moved from the theoretical to the practical in a remarkably short time, it has a long way to go before it can become standard medical practice. It is now highly complicated and costly. It will be some time before gene therapy becomes a tool of practicing doctors.

Meanwhile, researchers are trying to define and limit its risks. One danger is that inserted genes might activate other harmful genes, like cancer-causing oncogenes. Fail-safe mechanisms are needed to enable researchers to destroy an inserted gene that malfunctions or causes other unexpected problems.

In a survey of 1,000 adults last year for the March of Dimes, Louis Harris and Associates found that 89 per cent approved of using gene therapy to treat genetic diseases and an equal percentage favoured continued research in the field — New York Times.



Rabin, Arafat meet today

(Continued from page 1)

1967 (estimated at about 800,000 to 900,000 people, including defendants).

The conclusion of an agreement on modalities and conditions of elections to be held in nine months for a Palestinian council, specifying its structures and powers, including executive and legislative authority.

In the first clash over the accord, the PLO protested to Israel at the weekend that the continued hunt for wanted Palestinians violates the spirit of the autonomy deal.

Mr. Tzur, the Israeli agriculture minister said: "The Palestinians have to understand that it's in the interests of both Israel and the Palestinian police force to fight terrorism."

In Gaza City, Israeli troops shot dead a wanted guerrilla from the Fatah Hawks on Tues-

day after a car chase, Palestinian sources said.

A Hamas suicide bomber, the fourth since September, blew himself up and wounded 30 Israelis on the West Bank on Monday.

Israel says it is determined to capture, dead or alive, wanted activists, and particularly those from the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) and other Palestinian factions opposed to the peace process.

By Dec. 13, Israel and the Palestinians are to sign agreement on an Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho and detail arrangements for Palestinian control there.

Withdrawal then has to be completed by April 13 and by election eve Israeli forces must be redeployed outside populated areas.

Elections are to be held by July 13 following an interim agreement specifying the

autonomy council's structure and powers. The Israeli military government will then withdraw and its administration be dissolved.

The five-year transitional period begins upon the withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho, with permanent status negotiations to open not later than the start of the third year.

Meanwhile the news brought a renewed attack from the Israeli right wing.

Opposition Likud party leader Benjamin Netanyahu said: "Rabin is granting Arafat the status of a statesman without Arafat committing himself to halting terrorism and without the PLO changing its covenant."

"Rabin is no longer in control, Arafat is holding the reins."

Hardline Likud deputy and former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon charged: "Arafat is a war criminal and he would be better put on trial in Jerusalem."

Israeli troops kill three Palestinians

GAZA CITY, occupied Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli troops shot and killed three Palestinians Tuesday in separate incidents on the occupied Gaza Strip, army and Palestinian sources said.

Two members of the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, were killed in a clash with Israeli soldiers after they were spotted by special army forces near the Erez checkpoint leading from the Strip into Israel, the army said.

Earlier Tuesday, troops shot dead a wanted Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) activist and wounded another Arab after a car chase through Gaza City, Palestinian sources said.

Nael Mohammad Al Rifi, 23, was one of the four fighters

of the Gaza Hawks, the armed wing of the main PLO faction Fatah, spotted in a car by an army undercover squad.

The squad, in two unmarked cars, pursued the Hawks into a dead end street in the Tuffah neighbourhood of Gaza City.

The guerrillas fled on foot but Mr. Rifi was shot dead although he had raised his arms to surrender, the sources said. One of his comrades was wounded but escaped.

The troops then blew up the car. Military sources said a paramilitary border police patrol stumbled upon two armed Palestinians and one was killed in a shoot-out, the other fled.

According to Palestinian sources, Nael's brother, Raed Al Rifi, was killed by Israeli forces after stabbing to death two Israelis in Jaffa, a Tel Aviv

suburbs, on March 17, 1992.

The army has vowed to hunt down wanted Palestinians who have killed Israelis or Palestinian "collaborators," despite PLO protests that it violates the spirit of the autonomy deal signed Sept. 13.

An army spokesman, meanwhile, said that a Palestinian who blew himself up in a suicide attack on an Israeli bus was a member of Hamas, which rejects the peace deal.

The attack Monday in the West Bank wounded 28 soldiers and two civilians.

Sliman Mustafa Zidan, 43, from Qibya village on the West Bank, had been on the run since August when troops searching his house found chemicals which could be used to make bombs, a spokesman said.

وزارة الأشغال العامة والإسكان
دائرة العطاءات الحكومية
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS & HOUSING
GOVERNMENT TENDERS DIRECTORATE

**Ministry of Public Works and Housing
Government Tenders Directorate,
Tenders Announcement
Invitation to Tender No. (163/93)
For The Rehabilitation and
upgrading of the
King Abdullah Canal**

International contractors from the EC member countries and Jordan as a joint venture of two contractors from Jordan classified by the Ministry of Public Works and Housing as first grade in the field of water and sewerage are invited to contact the government Tender Directorate of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, Amman-Jordan, P.O.Box 1220, Fax 606751, to receive tender documents starting from 9/10/1993 and in accordance with the following terms:

- 1- Scope of work:
 1. Reshaping of the canal embankment.
 2. Construction of new check structure and additional appurtenant structures.
 3. Repair of concrete canal lining
 4. Rehabilitation of existing structures
 5. Cleaning of canal and structure.
 6. Miscellaneous works as drains, fence, etc.
 7. Supply and repair radial gates and hoisting gear.
2. Tender documents price for each set JD 750, non-refundable.
3. Site visit is arranged to take place on Monday, Nov. 1, 1993, at 8:00 a.m.
4. Pre-tender conference will be held Wednesday, Nov. 3, 1993, at the conference hall, first floor Ministry of Water and Irrigation at 10 a.m.
5. Tenders shall be submitted to the above address not later than 11:00 hrs. local time of the Sat., Dec., 11, 1993.

**Chairman, Central Tender Committee
Government Tenders Directorate
Eng. Basheer Al Jaghbeer**

Japan exports to GCC decline

DUBAI (R) — Japan's exports to the six Gulf Arab oil states declined by 0.6 per cent to \$4.78 billion in the first half of this year due to a dearer yen, but higher demand for oil pushed imports up by 1.1 per cent.

The Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) said an appreciation of the yen against the U.S. dollar, the currency in which Gulf trade is denominated, reduced competitiveness of Japanese products and led to a decline in demand in the Gulf.

"A sharp increase in price caused by the appreciation of the yen affected the demand for Japanese goods," said the JETRO report released Tuesday.

But increasing demand on crude oil in Japan and Kuwait's return to exporting oil after the 1990-91 Gulf crisis over Iraq's invasion of the emirate kept Japanese imports steady from the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The report said Japan's imports from the GCC recorded a nominal increase of 1.1 per cent with an import value of \$12.10 billion in the first half of 1993 compared with the same period in 1992.

It said oil accounted for 76.6 per cent of total Japanese imports from the GCC.

"Japan's crude oil import

from GCC countries constituted 65.9 per cent of its total crude oil imports in volume... crude imports from the GCC countries during the first half of 1993 increased by 4.5 per cent to \$9.27 billion in value and by 6.3 per cent to \$315.2 million barrels in volume," the report said.

But the import of petroleum products and gases decreased by 14.1 per cent and 5.8 per cent respectively, it said.

The UAE and Saudi Arabia remained the two largest suppliers of crude oil to Japan while imports from Kuwait rose to \$755 million, up 75.7 per cent, but still lower than the first half of 1990 before the Iraqi invasion.

It said total aluminium imports from the GCC rose by 18.5 per cent in value and 32.9 per cent in volume.

It said that despite a boom in construction activity in the Gulf following the Gulf crisis, the export of general machinery and metal products from Japan to the Gulf declined by 11.2 per cent and 38.4 per cent respectively.

Export of passenger cars also decreased by 3.5 per cent in value and by 20.3 per cent in number.

Saudi Arabia remained the largest trading partner of Japan among the GCC states with 44.4 per cent of the total exports to the Gulf during the first half of 1993.

Greek economic reform initiator regrets not having done more sooner

ATHENS (R) — Greek economic overlord Stefanos Manos is unrepentant about the harsh austerity measures that may cost the conservative government the elections Sunday, saying his only regret is not having done more sooner.

Since being appointed in February 1992, the blunt national economy and finance minister has taken a tough, no-holds-barred approach to cutting state deficits and a tenacious double-digit inflation rate.

He has pressed ahead relentlessly with efforts to free the heavily controlled economy, break state monopolies and privatise state operations ranging from telecommunications to casinos.

"If there's something which I regret it is that we did not start earlier. Because many of our projects would have come to an end and they could now be shown," he said in an interview with Reuters just a week before the Oct. 10 election.

Instead the public has felt the pain of three years of below-inflation pay rises, the shedding of thousands of state jobs and severe hikes in indirect taxes, especially on petrol, but it has seen few benefits from an excruciatingly slow restructuring and privatisation programme.

Mr. Manos and Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis, who in 1990 formed the first conservative government in nearly a decade, had hoped the

reforms would pay off before elections next May but an early vote was forced by rebel deputies in their own party.

The government's collapse, coupled with the absence of any sign of economic lift-off, forced Mr. Mitsotakis into the underdog's role in his fight for reelection against former Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu.

An opinion poll Monday by the independent Amer Group gives Mr. Papandreu 44 per cent to 48 per cent and Mr. Mitsotakis 39 to 41 per cent and a top independent pollster, Panayiotis Dimitras, called Mr. Papandreu's lead all but unassailable.

Mr. Manos agreed that the conservatives have failed to keep public well informed, or regularly reminded, of economic changes and successes over the past three and a half years.

"I thought that when I cut income taxes in half for most Greeks that they knew it, but it seems you have to tell them," he said.

Among his successes he cited: Primary budget surpluses for the first time in years, inflation heading to single digits, freeing of price controls and working hours, lower income taxes and progress on a wide-ranging privatisation programme.

"What I'm saying is there have been a lot of changes and it is really a question of getting this thing moving over a period of time to see the result," the

Harvard business school graduate said.

But the snap election and a deep split in conservative ranks may deny Mr. Manos the time he feels he needs to prove to the Greek people that his measures would have brought real progress.

Despite praise from European Community (EC) partners for taking tough steps, such as tax hikes in August 1992 to ensure revenue targets were met, his image at home is more that of a tough two-fisted enforcer of Mr. Mitsotakis's economic programme.

"I'm very much aware of the fact that some of these measures have been portrayed as highly unpopular. I must have been highly unpopular myself, this is why I campaign daily

now," he said.

Mr. Manos said a Socialist win would kill off projects aimed at bringing in foreign investment and raising money to service a state debt estimated at 130 per cent of the annual gross domestic product. Under his direction, the conservatives have been using multibillion-dollar EC aid packages to lure foreign investors into projects such as a new Athens metro and airport, a bridge across the Gulf of Corinth and the first private power plant.

He felt the Socialists would turn to administrative measures and a rapid depreciation of the drachma to pay off debts instead of "our classical approach" of building a budget surplus.

Jordan determined not to serve Israeli economy

(Continued from page 1)

East region will be developed and inter-linked by ambitious schemes in the areas of water, roads, pipelines, ports, communications and electricity that would all create a new climate of mutual dependence.

"In this regard, Jordan will find itself amidst a competition to attract these projects to its territory and become a leading centre in the region," Dr. Anani stressed. "This is the fact which we should be ready for."

He said that the talk of an Israeli dominance of the region's resources was an exaggeration in as much as saying that the Middle East (including Turkey and Iran) would be more useful to Israel than a pure Arab order.

Dr. Anani made the following points:

— Israel will be forced to implement an economic adjustment programme to strengthen its economy although it has the financial resources from world Jewry to undertake large investments.

"This necessitates that counter investments should be launched by opening up to the world at large noting that some Israeli producers are frightened from the Middle East market at large for more than our fears from them."

— Concerned Arab governments should not lift the Arab boycott of Israel. Nor should they open up to the Israeli economy until the issue of income differentials be tackled.

"Israel is a member of GATT but it doesn't abide by the GATT rules because its economy enjoys a high degree of protection and overt and covert subsidies to its exports and production. This phenomenon should be addressed by having the Israelis adopt painful corrective and adjustment measures."

— It is unrealistic to believe that unlimited amounts



Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Jawad Al Anani (left) listens to Jordanian Businessmen Association Chairman Mamdouh

Abu Hassan opening the 10th monthly economic forum held Monday night at Philadelphia Hotel

of money will be flowing on to the Middle East and it is equally wrong to think that financiers in the U.S., Europe, Japan and the Arab Gulf region have huge amounts of money ready to be spent in the region to "grease" the peace process.

"It is not true neither that the funds to be made available would be small and scarce. The \$2 billion allocated for Palestine is not sufficient to cover the obligations envisaged and still there are regional projects that have not been allocated any funds yet."

Moreover, donors are keeping in mind other financial needs legitimately demanded by Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

Dr. Anani said many issues such as banking, customs regulations, trade and other economic aspects still needed further negotiation between the concerned parties but he

stressed the following points:

A. Jordan will not accept an economic relationship whereby the Israeli economy would be a beneficiary of the Palestinian economy at the expense of Jordan and other Arab countries.

B. Jordan and Palestine should insist that trading between them be seen as internal trade during the interim period although a strong Israeli rejection is expected.

C. Establishing a mechanism whereby Jordanian banks would reopen their branches in Palestine and open new branches in Gaza under the full control of the Central Bank of Jordan.

D. Ensuring clear regulations for crossing the bridges in order to make certain that the freedom of travel be respected.

E. Boosting Arab, Jordan, and Palestinian joint ventures to benefit from the projects

that will be launched.

Dr. Anani went on to tell his audience that he does not share the view with those who say that the Palestinian economy would be built at the expense of the Jordanian economy.

"I can assure you that the appetite is true," he affirmed.

He said benefits from the Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation would be much larger than from any competition between the two economies.

The minister expected Jordan to sell products worth \$500 million a year in Palestine and Gaza.

He concluded by saying that there was no competition between Jordan and Palestine on external resources.

"We both have our reason to seek aid, but more importantly, is how to benefit from the available funding to create a strong Arab economy on both sides," he said.

Croatia devalues currency to curb hyperinflation

ZAGREB (R) — Croatia devalued its currency, the dinar, by 21 per cent against the German mark Monday as part of an austerity package to brake hyperinflation fuelled by chronic conflict with rebel Serb forces.

Other measures announced by the former Yugoslav republic led by conservative President Franjo Tudjman included strict curbs on wage increases and the introduction of a flat import tax of 10 per cent.

The dinar, hovering at 3,700 per mark of late, was fixed at 4,444 as of midnight (2301 GMT) Sunday, to be devalued further to 4,600 on Nov. 1 and 4,750 on Dec. 1.

Prime Minister Nikica Valentic said the aim of the plan was to slash the current annual inflation rate of 1,833 per cent to about 80 per cent by March 1994.

The dinar's value against the mark had plunged by almost 1,000 per cent since the start of 1993, triggered in part by huge military spending and costs of care for 550,000 refugees from Serb-held regions of Croatia and Bosnia.

A general decline in confidence in the economy has also

eroded the Croatian dinar. The Croatian economy has never recovered since the 1991 war of independence from Serb-led Yugoslavia because Serbs control 30 per cent of Croatian territory and sporadic fighting has prevented the revival of the country's once-lucrative tourist industry.

Mr. Tudjman has launched two limited military offensives this year over U.N. ceasefire lines into the Serb-held Krajina enclave in an effort to rebuild road, rail and energy links between north and south Croatia.

Croatia's economic woes, however, pale beside those in rump Yugoslavia, where inflation exceeds 600 per cent a month as a result of a punitive U.N. trade embargo imposed on Belgrade's sponsorship of Serbs in Bosnia's ethnic war in Bosnia.

Mr. Valentic said Croatia had to boost monthly revenue by 50 million marks (\$30 million) and introduce a strict regime of saving and rationalisation. This would accompany privatisation of the largely state-run economy inherited from old Yugoslavia.

UAE reports high demand for new marriage fund

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Men in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are rushing to benefit from a fund created this year to finance costly weddings and curb marriages to foreigners, officials said Monday.

Nearly 2,700 men have applied for the grant of 70,000 dirhams (\$19,000) and more than 1,300 have been paid, officials said. The 80-million dirham (\$21.8 million) fund was established by President Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan following concern that men were turning to Indian and other foreign brides rather than pay huge dowries to marry local women.

The fund's director, Jamal Al Bah, said that its long-term aim was to eliminate marriages to foreigners, according to local press reports.

Dowry payments, as stipulated by Islamic law, soared after the discovery of oil here three decades ago turned this desert state into one of the world's richest countries. Payments reached \$100,000, putting many men off the idea of tying the knot with local women.

Responding to a recent call by Sheikh Zayed, hundreds of UAE tribes have now struck agreements to cut dowries and other wedding expenses.

The government has launched a campaign to promote awareness of what it says are problems caused by mixed marriages.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 6, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Four very strong positive aspects today will help you focus your fixed creative ideas that bring you to the fore and allow you to have a ball with whatever it is that you enjoy doing most.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You now have every sort of interest in new activities which are very good but don't be surprised if it requires some change in your present mode, style.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) There can be a different sort of business interest that now comes up and you not only need to use experience from the past but be alert to new studies.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Whatever you have in mind about some public interest is good but there is another side of the situation you need to be more acquainted with.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Think over the various ways and means by which you can perform whatever your duties in a more modern and up to date manner, study periodicals.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Don't fill up all your time for recreations as you will have a sudden invitation that you would be wise not to turn down since it could bring much enjoyment.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Consider well what will make your family happier and

more comfortable and it is a good day to make changes for this reason by your own ingenuity.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A trip or jaunt that is unexpected or a communication that opens new vistas that you had not contemplated could be the order of the day so accept and grasp.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A chance comes to you where a financial matter is concerned but before you jump into this apparent opportunity be sure it what you actually want.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You are apt to dash from one person to another or one place to somewhere else unless you channel energies today, follow a wise course.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Be still for a little while and you get some very powerful guidance and inspiration how you can better gain your private aims in the days ahead.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Now you can be just as social and contact and see as many friends and acquaintances as you wish and have a very good time with them.

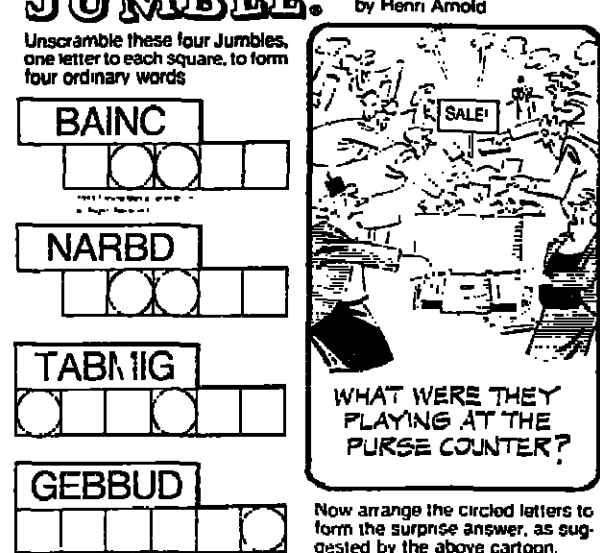
PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You can "expect the unexpected" in the outside world so make a point to be there and to take advantage of this opportunity which is unique for you.

THE BETTER HALF By Glasbergen



"Stanley isn't very good with power tools. Once he almost cut off his arm with an electric toothbrush."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By Henn Arnold



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's: Jumbles: BARON LATCH FEWEST AWEIGH
A.15wer What the wereoff said when she asked for mini — WEAR WOLF!

Peanuts



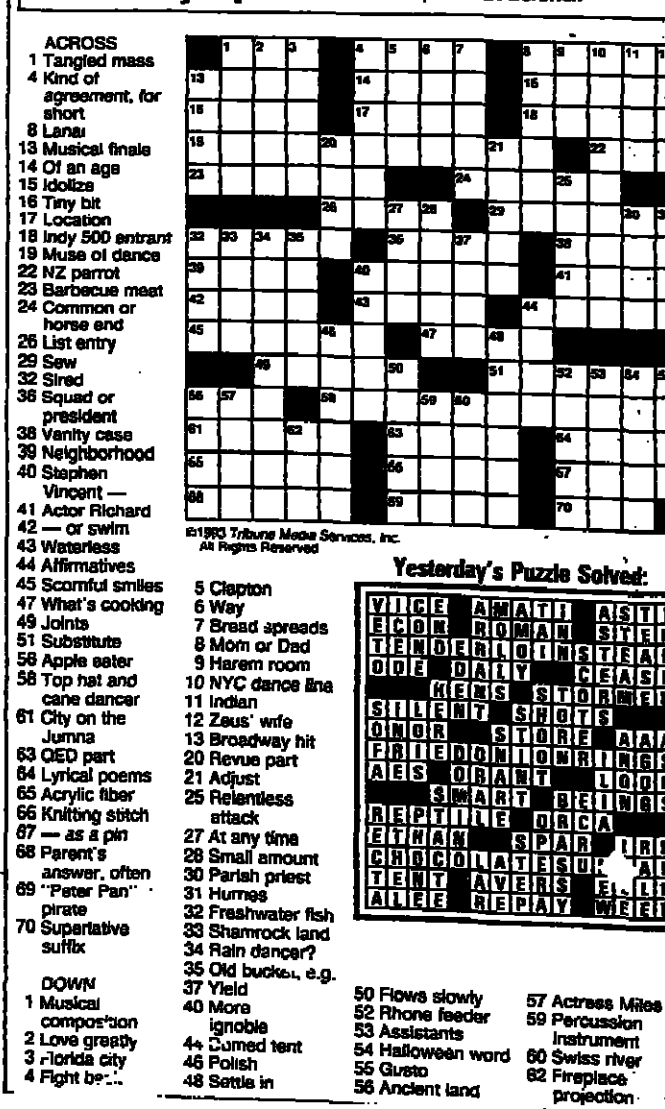
Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



THE Daily Crossword by Joan D. Berbrich



7

هكذا في الأصل

U.N. fails to stop intra-Muslim battles in Bosnian enclave

BIHAC, Bosnia (R) — U.N. peacekeepers said Tuesday four people had died in intra-Muslim fighting in the separatist enclave of Bihać in northern Bosnia and efforts to broker a truce had so far failed.

The regional Bosnian army commander has said nine people died, six of them rebels, in the Bihać pocket where residents led by local tycoon Fikret Abdić have revolted against Bosnian President Alija Izetbegović.

U.N. military sources Tuesday put the death toll at four, two on each side, and said 13 had been wounded.

They said the situation in the pocket had been quiet overnight but remained tense Tuesday after clashes focused on the villages of Juhovica and Skokovi involving small arms, machinegun and mortar fire.

U.N. sources said the Abdić camp was still holding the Skokovi Pass and sent 30 armed reinforcements there Monday night. The Bosnian army had claimed to be in charge there.

Officers of the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) were still trying to get the two sides together for talks but Mr. Abdić was apparently declining, the sources told Reuters.

Mr. Izetbegović ordered military intervention in the remote enclave — surrounded by

rebel Serb forces since the start of Bosnia's civil war in April last year — in an effort to avert an unprecedented schism in the Muslim community.

One U.N. source said however it was unlikely that the local Bosnian army commander, Ramiz Dreković, was militarily capable of launching a full-scale offensive to oust Mr. Abdić from his Velika Kladusa stronghold.

"That would require a force of 3,000 or 4,000 men and raising that number would mean denuding the confrontation line (with the Serbs)," the source said.

He said the front line between the Bosnian army and the Bosnian Serbs was "unusually quiet."

Commander Dreković blamed Monday's bloodletting in Juhovica on forces loyal to Mr. Abdić, a former member of Sarajevo's collective presidency, who a week ago was elected "president" of an "autonomous province of western Bosnia."

It was the first serious clash between the two sides since Mr. Abdić, a wealthy businessman and moderate political rival of Mr. Izetbegović, heralded the secession of Bihać, which borders a part of Croatia also held by Serb rebels.

Mr. Abdić's forces are now restricted to the district of Velika Kladusa in the far north of the pocket where his huge Agrokomerc food-processing firm has many factories.

The fighting in Juhovica, about 12 kilometres south of Velika Kladusa, erupted Monday morning as pro-Abdić civilians with armed police in their rear stood up against a line of Bosnian army soldiers.

Reuters reporters who witnessed the battle said it was not clear who fired first but they saw Bosnian army troops shoot initially only in the air and heard the first mortar fired from Abdić positions.

Commander Dreković's condition for peace was that two army brigades in the Velika Kladusa district restate their allegiance to Mr. Izetbegović.

Mr. Abdić says he wants to make peace with rebel Serbs and Croats who have grabbed most of the republic from government forces, arguing that Bihać's autonomy is the only way to secure it.

The pocket has been spared serious war damage and civilian suffering thanks to Mr. Abdić's trading connections with Serbs and Croats which have ensured black market supplies slip through front lines.

Meanwhile, the Bosnian capital Sarajevo was quiet Tuesday morning but some clashes were reported overnight between the Muslim-led Bosnian army and Croat forces in central Bosnia.

Bosnian radio said government forces had captured the Croat-held village of Vrdi, near Dreznica, which lies between the disputed southwestern town of Mostar and Jablanica.

Croatian radio reported skirmishes between Serbs in their breakaway enclave of Krajina in Croatia and Croatian government forces.

It said Croat army positions had been shelled near Zadar, around the coastal town of Šibenik and near the central city of Karlovac.

The Security Council Monday extended the peacekeeping mandate of U.N. forces in the former Yugoslavia for another six months.

In a resolution, the Council also warned Serbian authorities that continued support for Serb rebels in Croatia could prevent international sanctions against Belgrade from being lifted.

Russia, which last week had opposed some provisions in the resolution, finally endorsed the warning to Serbian President Slobodan Milošević.



WAR LEGACY: A disabled civilian (right), a humanitarian aid reached the embattled Angolan town of Menongue, after seven months of being cut off by rebels feeding point in the town of Menongue. Humanitarian aid (AFP)

Shevardnadze orders curfew in capital

MOSCOW (R) — Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze, struggling to keep his Transcaucasian state together, imposed a night-time curfew on the capital Tbilisi from Tuesday.

A decree said the curfew would come into force from 11 p.m. (2000 GMT), the radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said.

The city has had its share of the instability and violence gripping the former Soviet republic, with gunbattles in the streets and markets.

Separatist forces backed by Russian volunteers drove Georgian troops out of the Black Sea province of Abkhazia last week. Ousted President Zviad Gamsakhurdia returned from exile demanding his restoration to power and launched a rebellion in the western region of Mingrelia.

Mr. Shevardnadze told Georgian radio Monday he agreed in principle to presidential elections next spring, provided a new constitution could be agreed by referendum by then.

"I would agree to holding early elections in the spring... in order to remove tensions which are keeping our country, our republic under pressure," he said. "If our opponents agree to that, I would accept this course of events."

Georgia Monday asked the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) for help against rebel forces in its Abkhazia region, saying it faced a civil war worse than that in Bosnia.

"The CSCE must offer Georgia new, free, democratic elections which should be supervised by observers as a chance to stop the oncoming civil war and partition of the country," a Georgian official told a CSCE meeting in Warsaw.

Ramaz Klimiashvili, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Human Rights, asked governments in Europe and North America not to support forces that are trying to oust Mr. Shevardnadze.

"If the democratically elected government of Mr. Shevardnadze is put down by force, the CSCE must make clear that all its members will cut diplomatic and economic relations with any succeeding undemocratic regime," Mr. Klimiashvili said.

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India quake victims set up camp as corpses burn

KILLARI, India (R) — Tens of thousands of homeless camped under makeshift shelters and tents Tuesday, as huge convoys ferried in international and Indian aid following the country's worst earthquake in half a century.

Glinting in the sun like a silver sea, hundreds of temporary corrugated iron huts dot nearby fields, sheltering the 150,000 made homeless in last Thursday's quake in which up to 30,000 died.

Thousands of survivors dug through the rubble of their homes to recover possessions, hauling out battered bicycles,

clothes and tin trunks and carrying them back to their tents and shelters on the back of bullock carts.

The pervasive smell of disinfectant powder, sprinkled everywhere through the destroyed villages to prevent disease, competes with the lingering stench of burning flesh from cremations that are still continuing.

The United States, Britain and several other countries were flying in aid, including tents and plastic sheeting.

Huge convoys of trucks have ferried in drinking water, food, medical supplies and shelter

materials for survivors of the quake, which buried families in their homes as they slept.

President Bill Clinton's special envoy Ray Flynn was due to visit the quake-damaged region 450 kilometres east of Bombay Tuesday afternoon to assess India's aid needs.

Five days after the quake measuring 6.4 on the Richter Scale hit, corpses are still being found amidst the rubble.

"The bodies are in no condition to be removed once they are located," said one police officer. "We found one and the arm came off."

He said the bodies were being burnt wherever they were uncovered, amid the huge piles of debris and rock.

Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, who visited the quake-hit villages in the western state of Maharashtra Monday, promised to meet the full cost of building new homes.

But the survivors are likely to have to stay in relief camps and temporary shelters at least until January.

Many residents were disappointed that the 72-year-old Mr. Rao did not meet more relatives during his four-hour visit.

Pakistani voters to elect democrat for businessman

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's 53 million voters must choose between a democrat whose government was sacked for incompetence and a businessman dogged by charges of corruption in Wednesday's election, set to be the fairest in 23 years.

Pakistanis had 24 hours left Tuesday to weigh their options after the whirlwind election campaigns of the two main contenders — former Prime Ministers Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif — officially closed at midnight.

Ms. Bhutto ended with a show of strength in Lahore, Pakistan's political heartland and the powerbase of her arch-rival.

"You are the real tigers, you will not let a fake tiger win," Ms. Bhutto told cheering crowds, poking fun at the election symbol of Sharif, whose resignation in July paved the

way for Wednesday's elections for the 217-seat National Assembly.

"Sharif is a tiger without a tail."

Ms. Bhutto is confident of victory for the Pakistan People's Party — aides have been debating only whether she should take a victory train or plane when she returns to Lahore after voting in her ancestral village in the southern province of Sindh.

Mr. Sharif insists victory is in the bag for his Pakistan Muslim League, and seizes the opportunity to deride Ms. Bhutto's overseas education and foreign friends.

"On Oct. 6, Benazir Bhutto will carry a ticket for Paris," he told supporters in the former colonial garrison town of Rawalpindi, closing his frenetic helicopter-borne campaign. The 45-day campaign has been short on issues and long

on invective, diplomats said.

The bitter loathing the two have for each other and their repeated power struggles have forced Pakistanis to the polls for the third time in just five years.

Underground bookmakers are betting on a win for Ms. Bhutto — based on her traditional 37 per cent vote bank, sympathy for her dismissal in August 1990 after just 20 months in office on disputed charges of corruption and misuse, and an apparent nod from the powerful army and bureaucratic establishment.

Local media described her rule as "Benazir in blunderland". She was elected in 1988 in the first elections after the end of military rule that jailed and exiled her for her opposition.

Mr. Sharif has been battling allegations by his opponents of corruption among his ministers, underhand money-making schemes and economic policies designed to benefit his huge family business and industrialist cronies.

Given that choice, the neutral caretaker government — installed after Ms. Bhutto's struggle to oust Mr. Sharif topped his government 30 months into its five-year term — fears that few voters will bother to turn out to stamp their ballot papers.

With 150,000 soldiers supervising the polls, three teams of international observers in the country and a neutral interim administration, voting is set to be the fairest since Ms. Bhutto's father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was elected in 1970, diplomats say.

But few seem interested, and even Prime Minister Moeen Qureshi raised the spectre of a re-poll if turnout is too low.

Hosokawa attacked in parliament for war remarks

TOKYO (R) — Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Tuesday his recent war apology was "only natural" considering all of the suffering Japan caused as its troops swept through Asia before and during World War II.

Mr. Hosokawa, fending off opposition attacks in parliament, said the apology extended to Europeans and Americans, as well as to Asian victims.

"Japan's fast aggressive actions caused much suffering for many people, so it's only natural that we apologise for what happened," the prime minister told a lower house session.

"There were many people from the allied countries in Asia during the war and they endured great pain," he said. "It's natural that they too be included (in my apology)."

Shintaro Ishihara, an outspoken rightist from the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), led the opposition assault on Mr. Hosokawa, who has gone further than any other Japanese leader in confronting the country's war responsibilities.

"Japan does feel guilty for what it did in Asian countries but there's no need for us to apologise to the allied countries that won the war. Like Britain, the United States, Holland and France," Mr. Ishihara said in a heated debate.

"Japan also suffered in the war. Many were killed in the atomic bombing (of Hiroshima and Nagasaki) but we've not heard one word of apology," Mr. Hosokawa apologised for Japan's aggressive war at his first news conference as prime minister on Aug. 10, sparking protest both outside and within his coalition government, which includes many conservatives.

Two weeks later in a speech to parliament Mr. Hosokawa apologised for Japan's aggressive war at his first news conference as prime minister on Aug. 10, sparking protest both outside and within his coalition government, which includes many conservatives.

Mr. Hosokawa, calm and collected, said he was well aware of the suffering of A-bomb victims and other Japanese during the war. However the fact remained that Japan owed apologies to foreign war victims.

LDP leaders, who ruled Japan for 38 years until Mr. Hosokawa's eight-party coalition seized power in August, had only offered vague apologies when they could not be avoided.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Koreas make no headway in talks

SEOUL (R) — South and North Korea met at their fortified cold war frontier Tuesday but failed to make progress in a row over the North's suspected development of nuclear weapons. The two sides discussed a proposed exchange visit by special envoys, which Seoul hopes will prove a turning point in efforts to remove suspicions over the nuclear programme. "The talks ended inconclusively. Both sides only agreed to meet again on Oct. 15," a Southern official said after the two-hour meeting at the border village of Panmunjom. The official, who asked not to be named, said the talks made little progress over a Northern call for an end to Seoul's annual Team Spirit military exercises with the United States. He said Northern delegates also urged the South to stop trying to settle the nuclear question in league with the international community.

Aspin refuses to fire top admiral

WASHINGTON (R) — Defence Secretary Les Aspin has decided not to fire chief of naval operations Admiral Frank Kelso despite a recommendation from the navy's civilian secretary that he seek Adm. Kelso's resignation, defence officials said Monday. The official, who asked not to be identified, said Mr. Aspin made the decision to keep Adm. Kelso on as the navy's top officer after examining a recommendation from Navy Secretary John Dalton made last Friday that Adm. Kelso be removed for lack of leadership. Adm. Kelso, 60, and top navy and Marine Corps officers attended the rowdy Tailhook Association Convention of Aviators in Las Vegas two years ago but Adm. Kelso had denied any knowledge that young male aviators fondled and sexually abused women there. Adm. Kelso, a 37-year navy veteran, had also been instrumental in the recent opening of new jobs to women in the U.S. military including piloting combat aircraft.

Clinton seeks better ties with unions

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) — President Bill Clinton attempted to patch up relations with labour unions that helped him win the White House, but recently have felt betrayed by his support of NAFTA. Mr. Clinton was in California on a 48-hour trip to tell his plan for a massive overhaul of the U.S. health care system — something dear to the hearts of the unions. But Mr. Clinton has found himself having to stand up for the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which would take down almost all trade barriers among Canada, Mexico and the United States over 15 years to create the world's largest free-trade zone. NAFTA has drawn fire from opposition from the unions, which say Mexico's relatively lax environment law enforcement, and low salaries would send U.S. jobs south of the border.

French centre in Togo attacked

LOME (AFP) — A bomb blast wounded three people, one seriously, outside the French Cultural Centre in the heart of the Togolese capital Lome, paramilitary police said Tuesday. The bomb, placed against a wall of the building, exploded on Monday evening, wounding three passersby, blowing a small hole in the wall and smashing windows, the gendarmes said. Nobody had claimed responsibility for the attack by Tuesday morning.

300 Tajik fighters arrested

MOSCOW (AFP) — Some 300 Islamic Tajik fighters were arrested by Russian Border Guards, according to Russian military sources in Tajikistan quoted by the press agency ITAR-TASS. The combatants, who had crossed the border from Afghanistan, were under the Guards' control Tuesday. The agency did not give details of the fighting, but said the combatants had mined an area of several kilometres along the border before being arrested. The sources did not say exactly where the fighters were operating. Thousands of Tajik Mujahadeen who fled to Afghanistan after the establishment of a neo-Communist regime in Douchanbe at the end of 1992 have moved back across the Afghan border this year, particularly in the Piandji Region (southwest).

200 hurt in Japan train crash

TOKYO (AFP) — A computer-controlled train derailed Tuesday after crashing into buffers at a terminal in Osaka, western Japan, injuring about 200 passengers, police and press reports said. About 250 passengers were aboard the remote-controlled four-coach train when it overran a platform at Suminoe Park at the end of a 6.6-kilometre state-of-the-art commuter line, the reports said. Many of the passengers sustained light injuries. There were no reports of fatalities.

Madonna visits birthplace of Jesus

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (R) — U.S. pop star Madonna, in Israel for a concert, slipped into the occupied West Bank for a brief pilgrimage to Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity, revered by Christians as the birthplace of Jesus. Travelling in a closed van with her head covered, Madonna was not recognised by fans. She tried but failed to elude press photographers. Madonna, a Catholic, has used religious symbols in her raunchy acts, outraging some Christians. Bethlehem is just south of Jerusalem. The singer was met in the town by an Israeli military escort.

Punk princess sells off wine and Harleys

BONN (R) — Germany's hard-up Princess Gloria Von Thurn Und Taxis is selling family treasures and possessions including 75,000 bottles of vintage wine, two of her Harley-Davidson motorcycles and her late husband's gold watch, to pay death duties. The princess, 33, known for her riotous party life and punk hair styles during her marriage to Prince Johannes, says the proceeds are needed to pay huge inheritance taxes due on the vast estate of her late husband, who died in 1990 aged 64. "I'm a poor devil," moaned Princess Gloria, whose 500-room home is said to be bigger than London's Buckingham Palace.

'Eat more chocolate,' China told

PEKING (R) — A British-based confectionery giant announced plans Tuesday to turn China into a nation of chocolate-eaters with a joint venture plant in Peking. Kevin Hayes, chairman of the Pacific rim division of Cadbury Schweppes, said per capita consumption in China was a paltry 0.03 kg a year, against 1.5 kg in Hong Kong. Mr. Hayes told a news conference it was his dream for China to reach Hong Kong's level of chocolate consumption. Asked if this was bad news for children's teeth in China, a company spokesman said: "The common perception is that chocolate is a cause of tooth decay. Research has not shown that at all."

Royal eating habits served up

PARIS (R) — Versailles Palace opens its doors next month on a glittering exhibition of three centuries of royal eating habits which shaped the table manners of Europe. When Louis XIV, the sovereign whose centralised power earned him the title of "sun king", transferred the French court to Versailles in 1682, the fork — an Italian invention — had just been introduced and glasses were never seen on tables. "The rituals, instruments and symbols of the royal meal," said Versailles Director Jean-Luc Babelon, "have helped spawn table etiquette as we know it in Europe today."

Cigarettes but no supper for Rutskoi, Khasbulatov

MOSCOW (R) — Russia's sacked Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi and Parliament Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov were unlikely to get supper in their Moscow prison cells Monday, Interfax News Agency said. Brought to Lefortovo Jail, notorious among political prisoners of Josef Stalin's time, straight from the burning Russian parliament, they had not been expected and arrived too late for the evening meal, it said. But the two men would be allowed the luxury of smoking. "This is very important as both Rutskoi and Khasbulatov are heavy smokers," Interfax said.

Wordsmith calls for borrowed voice

LONDON (R) — Renowned British physicist Professor Stephen Hawking demonstrated a new speech synthesiser for disabled people and urged the government to make it freely available. Prof. Hawking, author of A Brief History Of Time and a victim of motor neurone disease, said modern technology had helped thousands of people like himself to communicate. "The fact that you are listening to me now shows what technology can do," he said at the opening of a technology exhibit at London's Science Museum. "Modern technology can give a voice to people in my position who have a lot to say."

Handwritten signature: *الشيخ فيليب*

Medvedev marches on, worried about Russia

SYDNEY (R) — Andrei Medvedev closed his mind to the troubles in his Russian homeland as he defeated Australian qualifier Heath Denman in the first round of the Australian indoor men's tennis championship Tuesday.

The number three seed, who describes himself as Russian but officially represents the Ukraine, said the current turmoil in Moscow was affecting his life off court as he had family and friends in the Russian capital.

"It is hurting me, it's hurting me a lot," Medvedev, 19, said. "It doesn't affect me during the match but being off the court it definitely bothers me. I have lots of friends living in Moscow," he said.

Troops loyal to president Boris Yeltsin stormed the White House parliament in Moscow Monday to end armed resistance by rebels. Scores of people died and Yeltsin imposed an overnight curfew.

Medvedev, ranked eighth in the world, took 74 minutes to beat Denman 6-4, 6-4.

The Kiev-born Medvedev will now meet the winner of Wednesday's clash between Australian Mark Woodforde and Jonas Svensson of Sweden in the \$875,000 tournament.

American qualifier Jonathan Canter caused an upset when he came from a set down to beat last year's semifinalist Henrik Holm of Sweden 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Canter, aged 28 and ranked 284th in the world, will now face the winner of Wednesday's clash between Boris Becker and Australia's Neil Bowrick.

Becker's first-round match was put back a day following his withdrawal from the doubles Monday because of a stomach complaint.

South African Wayne Ferreira ruined Richey Reneberg's 28th birthday celebrations with a comfortable 6-4, 6-2 win over the American while sixth seed Petr Korda of the Czech Republic had little

trouble in disposing of Dutchman Paul Haarhuis 6-3, 6-1.

Top seeded American Jim Courier began with an easy win.

Courier, hoping to buff up his tarnished record after his straight sets defeat by Dutchman Jacco Eltingh in the second round of the Salem Open in Kuala Lumpur last week, made short work of qualifier Alexander Mronz.

The world No. 2, making his tournament debut, took exactly 100 minutes to beat the 167th ranked German 6-2, 7-5.

Courier, 23, fired numerous passing shot winners from the baseline and a fusillade of unreturnable serves.

The American said he was happy with his performance. "It was a good way to start. I like the court a lot out there... it's a nice atmosphere to play in," Courier said.

Courier will play Richard Fromberg in the second round of the \$875,000 tournament. Fromberg beat fellow Australian Todd Woodbridge 6-1, 4-6, 7-5 in his opening match.

Sweden's Mikael Pernfors continued his slow comeback from a career-threatening Achilles tendon injury in 1991 by defeating American Patrick McEnroe 6-3, 6-3.

The 30-year-old Pernfors, who reached the world's top 10 in 1986, has shot up the rankings this year to 35 from 237 at the end of last year. Defending champion Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia, scheduled to meet Courier in the semifinals, was beginning his title defence against local man Jason Stoltenberg Tuesday.

Ricard Krajicek of the Netherlands was the first seed to fall when he was beaten 7-6, 2-6, 6-4 by Australia's Jamie Morgan.

Krajicek, the fifth seed and ranked 10th in the world, said he was surprised by the strength of Morgan's serve.

Morgan was playing his first match since his fourth round loss to fellow Australian Wally Masur at the U.S. Open last month where he was leading 5-0 in the fifth set after earlier holding a two-set lead.

He said he had got over last month's loss but added: "I was not counting on a win tonight until the last point."

The Australian will not play Pernfors in the second round.

TOP RANKINGS
Top 10 women's and men's tennis players, according to rankings issued by the Women's Tennis Association and the Association of Tennis Professionals:

1. Steffi Graf (Germany)
2. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain)
3. Martina Navratilova (U.S.)

4. Monica Seles (Yugoslavia)
5. Conchita Martinez (Spain)
6. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina)
7. Mary Joe Fernandez (U.S.)
8. Jana Novotna (Czech Republic)
9. Jennifer Capriati (U.S.)
10. Anke Huber (Germany)

1. Pete Sampras (U.S.)
2. Jim Courier (U.S.)
3. Stefan Edberg (Sweden)
4. Sergi Bruguera (Spain)
5. Boris Becker (Germany)
6. Michael Stich (Germany)
7. Michael Chang (U.S.)
8. Andrei Medvedev (Ukraine)
9. Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia)
10. Richard Krajicek (Netherlands)

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NEWS IN BRIEF

McEnroe turns down captain's job

INGLEWOOD (AFP) — John McEnroe has turned down the job of United States Davis Cup captain for personal reasons, he said in a statement. McEnroe, who has helped Andre Agassi and Boris Becker on an informal coaching basis this year, had said earlier in the year he would be honoured to captain his country. Tom Gorman, captain since 1980, stood down after the play-off against the Bahamas last month. The Americans had been forced into the play-offs following their first round defeat to Australia when Agassi, Jim Courier, Pete Sampras and Michael Chang refused to play. Former Wimbledon champion Stan Smith is now seen as the favourite to take over.

Tour De France may ban Spanish teams

PARIS (R) — Tour De France organisers may ban some Spanish teams from next year's race because of a World Cup row, but not three-times winner Miguel Indurain. Tour Director Jean-Marie Leblanc told Reuters Monday a boycott of this season's World Cup by Spanish teams was damaging the sport and that reprisals might be needed. "But there is no question of us barring great riders with Spanish teams such as Miguel Indurain or Tony Rominger," he said.

Witt to skate in December

FRANKFURT (R) — German figure skating star Katarina Witt, who hopes to make a comeback at next year's Lillehammer Winter Olympics, is to skate her new free programme for the first time in public Dec. 3. The 27-year-old double Olympic champion plans to compete in a gala in Frankfurt two weeks before the German championships where she needs to finish at least third to keep alive her Olympic hopes. Witt won gold at the 1984 and 1988 Olympics before turning professional. She is allowed to return to competitive skating after a five-year break under a new ruling which permits former professionals to regain their amateur status.

Graf out of action

ESSEN (R) — World number one Steffi Graf will be out of action until the end of October after undergoing an operation on her injured right foot Monday. Doctors at the Essen Hospital where the 24-year-old German was treated said Graf would need three weeks of treatment to recover from the chipped bone in her foot. The French, Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion will miss indoor tournaments in Zurich this week and in Brighton, England, starting Oct. 18. The German is the defending champion at both events.

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JBF International Basketball Tournament

Jordan concedes win to CSKA

By Aileen Bannayan

Special to the Jordan Times
AMMAN — Jordan's national basketball team Tuesday lost a golden opportunity to beat Russian champions CSKA Moscow, settling for a five-point defeat in the final game of the International Basketball Tournament organised by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF).

Although everyone expected the Russian champions to easily win by a large score difference, scoring remained close throughout the first half. CSKA's taller players and their experience paid off as they built a commanding lead in the second half and won the match 75-70 to clinch the championship title. Bulgaria's Himik came in second, while Lebanon's Al Hikmah finished third.

Her Royal Highness Princess Haya and hundreds of attending fans were overwhelmed when the Jordanian team took the lead and proved they were no easy opponents.

Jordan led 10-7 after a three-pointer by team captain Murad Barakat. CSKA took the lead at 18-15 and 22-18. However Barakat scored again to give Jordan the lead at 23-22. Both teams then alternated the lead with Barakat, Naser Bushnaq and Yousef Zaghloul scoring to give Jordan the lead at 31-30.

Most CSKA players — with an average height of two metres — lacked accurate finishing but managed to take a 37-33 lead in the final minutes of the first half. Jordan's Muntaser Abultayeb scored as CSKA ended the half by a mere two point lead of 37-35.

The visiting team played with greater concentration in the second half and managed to widen their lead to 43-38 and 45-40 by successfully limiting the Jordanian team's scoring and often blocking



Murad Barakat



Marwan Al Saeedi

attempts by Bushnaq. CSKA led 49-42 before two three-pointers to lead 55-47 after a three-pointer by Barakat. The Russian champions expanded their lead to 63-49 as Jordan's Samir Murqus sank in a three-pointer of his own and Zaghloul scored to narrow the gap to 64-54.

FINAL STANDINGS

Team	P	W	L	SF	SA	Pts
CSKA	5	5	—	55.4	360	10
Himik	5	4	1	51.4	498	9
Al Hikmah	5	2	3	41.1	423	7
Jordan	5	2	3	42.4	438	7
Talaba	5	2	3	40.8	482	7
Naft	5	—	5	40.0	493	5

New investigations in Marseille and Tapie

PARIS (AFP) — Disgraced Olympique Marseille and their beleaguered President Bernard Tapie were facing two new bribery investigations Tuesday.

The prosecution department in Nantes said it was opening a preliminary inquiry into claims that Marseille had tried to fix a 1992 League match against Nantes.

Prosecutors in Valenciennes announced Monday that they are looking into whether Tapie had offered money to a key witness in the O.M.-Valenciennes scandal to change his evidence.

The player at the centre of both new inquiries is Jean-Jacques Eydelie who was at Nantes before moving to Marseille. He is currently suspended while attempts are made to clear up the whole Marseille bribes affair.

Eydelie is said to have acted as intermediary when Jean-Pierre Bernes, the former Marseille general manager, offered three Valenciennes players money to throw a May 20 league match.

Marseille have already been

banned from defending the European Champions Cup this year and been stripped of the French League title.

The Nantes investigation follows allegations made by Eydelie while giving evidence in the Valenciennes affair.

Legal sources said he told investigating Magistrate Bernard Beffy that Bernes approached him before a Marseille-Nantes League game March 5, 1992. Eydelie said he

refused, an offer of 350,000 francs (\$55,000) from Tapie's right-hand man to "slow down" during the game.

Eydelie told the judge that he thought Marseille had won the match fairly. The only goal of the game was scored by French national captain Jean-Pierre Papin who has since left Marseille for A.C. Milan.

Eydelie said he thought "it was a very clear goal." The legal sources said.

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♣ 8 6

SOUTH
♠ 8
♥ A K Q 9 5
♦ A 7 6 3
♣ K 10 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ 1♠ 2♠ Pass
2♥ Pass 3♠ Pass
4♠ Pass 4♥ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

Who do we think is the greatest player in the history of the game? Among the men, there are many stars of today and yesterday who would be in contention, and for us to venture an opinion would do little more than alienate some very dear friends. We have no such qualms when it comes to the female of the species. As far as we are concerned, Helen Sobel stands head and shoulders above the rest and, indeed, above many of the males in the first category. The slim, attractive woman at the table did not look like she



Nigel Mansell

success was his fast adaptation to Indy-car racing's oval circuits, unknown in Formula One.

He injured his back in practice for what would have been his first oval race, at Phoenix, and he sprained a wrist when he tripped on a set of portable stairs at another circuit.

The key to his unexpected

self and the Newman-Haas Team, but I've also raced for my country," he said. "Whether I like it or not, I carry my country on my shoulders."

"I think of where I've come from, from the formula, and I try to do the best I possibly can. That is a lot of motivation to keep you going through accidents, through the hard times, when your car is not working, the team is struggling."

Mansell had his share of struggles after his dream start to the season, a victory in the first race on the temporary street circuit in Australia.

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The key to his unexpected

his season with McLaren.

And Mansell's closest rival throughout the season was another Formula One veteran, two-time world champion Emerson Fittipaldi of Brazil.

Fittipaldi claimed his second Indianapolis 500 victory, and kept his title hopes alive until the penultimate race.

He finished second from pole in the season finale at Laguna Seca Sunday. In the final standings, Mansell had a total of 191 points. Fittipaldi, who won three races for Penske, had 183. Canadian rookie Paul Tracy, Fittipaldi's teammate, matched Mansell's total of five victories to finish third overall on 157 points.

The sprinkling of F-1 veterans now racing in the U.S. meant Mansell renewed some old friendships and old rivalries.

Nelson Piquet of Brazil for one seemed happy to renew his personal feud with Mansell, painting the Englishman as a malcontent and whiner at the Indy 500.

In the end, however, Mansell's capture of America was complete.

"If anything, he has exceeded our expectations," said team co-owner Carl Haas when he hired Mansell for two more years for a reported \$10 million.

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CONCORD 'II'

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China conducts nuclear test; locks horns with U.S.

WASHINGTON (AFP) — China's detonation of an underground nuclear test Tuesday was condemned by other nuclear powers and U.S. President Bill Clinton countered by issuing orders to prepare for resumed U.S. testing next year.

Russia, Britain, and the United States issued statements regretting the Chinese action, which marked a setback for a U.S.-led moratorium on nuclear tests, of the western nuclear powers, only France withheld comment.

Moving with unprecedented speed, Peking confirmed the test in a statement carried by the official Xinhua news agency and dismissed the moratorium on nuclear tests as of "extremely limited significance."

The blast, which measured

5.8 on the open-ended Richter scale, was detected by international seismic monitors in the desert low-lying testing site in China's far-west Xinjiang region.

Western experts said the Chinese device was probably 70 to 80 kilotonnes, and aimed at developing a multiple warhead missile and maintaining China's tactical edge in Asia.

Responding, the White House announced that Mr. Clinton "has today directed the department of energy to take such actions as are needed to put the U.S. in a position to be able to conduct nuclear tests next year."

The White House said the United States "deeply regrets" the underground nuclear test announced just hours earlier by the Chinese government.

"We urge China to refrain

from further nuclear tests and to join the other nuclear powers in a global moratorium," the White House statement said.

Mr. Clinton, who was in California Tuesday, stopped short of ordering a resumption of nuclear testing, saying such a decision would depend on "fundamental U.S. national security interests."

The statement said he would consider the contribution that further tests would make to improving the safety and reliability of U.S. nuclear weapons, the extent to which China and other nations continue to conduct tests, and progress in negotiations on a global ban on nuclear tests.

U.S. test sites have been maintained in the Nevada Desert by the Energy and Defense departments.

Peres calls on Syria to negotiate

BONN (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres called Tuesday upon Syria to negotiate for peace with Israel, but said that Israel's withdrawal from the Golan Heights could not be a precondition for such talks.

Mr. Peres, who was speaking after talks in Bonn early Tuesday with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, said Israel was ready to consider a withdrawal, but that Syria must show its willingness to talk about the conditions for this. "We want to know what will be the nature of the peace and the security arrangements," he said.

He said Israel was ready for talks with Syria, and he unfavourably compared the attitude of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad with that of the Palestinians, who had been ready for talks with Israel.

The foreign minister said Israel's goal was a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East including Syria.

Mr. Peres said he also hoped for a peace accord with Jordan "very soon."

The minister said he had found the chancellor "very positive and very understanding," and declared himself "very satisfied" at his talks with Kohl, who has been invited to make a second visit to Israel, after one in March.

He described relations between Israel and Germany as being "in good shape," and said he knew the recent wave of anti-Semitic and anti-foreigner violence in Germany was unacceptable for the chancellor too.

Mr. Peres said he expected Germany to become more involved in the Middle East peace process.

In a statement, Mr. Kohl for his part said Germany supported Israel's desire for speedy negotiations to update a cooperation accord between Israel and the European Community.

"The chancellor reaffirmed Germany's support for the Israeli wish for new negotiations soon with the European Community on expanding the existing cooperation agreement," the statement added.

Mr. Peres said German business should play a major role in developing the Middle East to secure chances for peace created by last month's Israeli-Palestinian pact.

"Germany can and should play an important role in the new structure of the Middle East," said Mr. Peres, who met Mr. Kohl on his way home from the United States.

He said Germany and its EC allies should help develop tourism and industry, including mineral mining from the Dead Sea, to stabilise the region after decades of war. But he had not discussed concrete plans with Mr. Kohl, who has stressed that Germany's high unification bills and spending on the former Soviet bloc limit its scope for foreign aid.

Bonn will play about 28 per cent of \$600 million pledged by the EC over five years to aid the Palestinian transition to self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. The minister stressed to

journalists it was important the Palestinian entity become an economic as well as a political success, and said he envisaged a triangle of cooperative prosperity between Israel, Palestinians and Jordan.

But in answering questions he warned that Iran was a danger to other states of the region, and attacked its support for Islamic-inspired movements such as Hizbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Mr. Peres also said Jerusalem would remain the "Israeli capital" and that it had never been an Arab capital.

Asked about the Palestinian diaspora and its rights, the minister said there was no question of allowing all Palestinians to return, as this would make them the majority with the result that Israel would "no longer be a Jewish state."

"How can anyone expect us to sacrifice our majority?" the minister asked.

Mr. Peres, who was making a brief visit to Germany on his return from the United States, was going on to Lisbon for a meeting of the Socialist International, which groups social democratic-type parties from around the world.

A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative is expected to attend the Lisbon meeting.

Mr. Peres told reporters Tuesday he was satisfied that German leaders opposed the far-right surge but he urged them to guard against further violence. At least 28 people have been killed in such

attacks since 1991.

"I hope the Germans will be on their guard when it comes to outbursts of xenophobia, anti-Semitism or any other outbursts against minorities," the foreign minister said.

He said Mr. Kohl had raised the issue in his hour-long talks, pledging to oppose right-wing violence.

"I would be satisfied if there wasn't any need to raise the issue, but I am satisfied with the position Kohl took," he told the news conference.

Mr. Peres said he welcomed the fact that German political and business leaders as well as trade unions and the press had taken a stand against neo-Nazis.

Mr. Kohl, who has been criticised by liberals and Jewish leaders at home for not taking neo-Nazism seriously enough, condemned racist violence in a televised speech on Sunday marking the third anniversary of German unity.

Mr. Peres declined to comment when asked whether ties with Israel would suffer should Mr. Kohl's controversial candidature for the presidency, Stefan Heitmann, be elected next May.

Mr. Heitmann has been attacked by liberals in Mr. Kohl's own coalition but praised by radical rightists for suggesting that Germans should put their dark Nazi past behind them and that the country risked becoming swamped by foreigners.

In his statement after the talks, Mr. Kohl did not mention the neo-Nazi issue.

No key witnesses will testify in trade centre bombing trial

NEW YORK (Agencies) — A prosecutor admitted Monday that he had no eye-witnesses to the key events in the World Trade Centre bombing but said the evidence would be sufficient to convict the defendants.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Gilmore Childers called the February attack, which killed six people and wounded more than 1,000, "the single most destructive act of terrorism ever committed here in the United States."

He said, however, he would not be calling any witnesses who saw the bomb being made or the rental van delivering it during the trial of four suspects which opened here after three weeks of jury selection.

Though tens of thousands of people were in the 110-story twin towers when the bombing occurred at lunchtime on Feb. 26, they were "unaware that one minute later... their lives would change forever."

Two of the building's maintenance workers died in the blast, along with a locksmith, a dental supply salesman, a restaurant manager and a pregnant woman.

Federal and city police surrounded the courthouse where Federal Judge Kevin Duffy ordered the jurors to forget what they had read or heard about the incident and told them they were about "to start on a great adventure."

The trial is expected to last for the rest of the year.

Mr. Childers said the four independent were part of a conspiracy to bomb the World Trade Centre and other unidentified buildings in the city.

"This was part of a self-proclaimed war of terrorism on the United States," he said in his opening statement in the highly publicised trial.

As the jury was being sworn in on Monday Judge Duffy noted the importance of the proceedings.

"All of us together are about to start on a great adventure. You are to become true minis-

ters of justice," he told the anonymous jurors.

Mr. Childers said the government would prove the four immigrants built the powerful bomb and took it to the trade centre in Lower Manhattan, the largest office complex in the United States.

However, Robert Precht, the lawyer defending Mohammad Salameh, said he would use testimony by police officers to show his client's behaviour was that of an innocent man.

Mr. Salameh rented the van believed to have been used in the bombing but had reported it stolen 15 hours before the blast. He was arrested when he tried to get his deposit back on his third trip.

Mr. Precht said these were not the actions of someone who was guilty.

"The evidence will show Mr. Salameh's conduct is not that of a person plotting to blow up the World Trade Centre," Mr. Precht said. "He acted as if he had an innocent state of mind."

The Feb. 26 blast devastated the underground garage of the complex and sent thick black smoke pouring through the twin towers.

After doing this, these four defendants put Americans on notice it was they who carried out this heinous act and they would do it again," Mr. Childers said.

He said that while there were no witnesses who actually saw the men mixing the chemicals used in the bomb, "you will hear testimony undeniably tying the men to the chemicals."

The 41-minute presentation was the first look at the government's case against the men.

The government alleges the four were part of a broader conspiracy by a group of fundamentalists with ties to Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, a blind Egyptian cleric who preaches violence against the government in Cairo.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman is charged in a separate indictment that alleges he was the guiding hand in a conspiracy to blow up the United Nations, kill Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and destroy two vital New York city highway tunnels.

The current case involves four defendants: Mr. Salameh, 25, an illegal immigrant of Palestinian descent, Nidal Ayyad, 25, a naturalised U.S. citizen of Palestinian descent, Mahmoud Abu Halima, 33, an Egyptian native, and Ahmad Ajaj, 27, a Palestinian born in Jerusalem.

Two other defendants, Ramzi Yousef and Abdul Yasin, remain fugitives.

Mr. Childers said Mr. Ajaj and Mr. Yousef had arrived in the United States from Pakistan with a "terrorist library" of manuals and video and audio cassettes explaining how to make and carry out bombing attacks.

He said when they entered the United States "terrorism arrived in this country."

Mr. Childers said that several days after the bombing the defendants sent a letter to the New York Times saying the attack was to protest against U.S. policy and aid to Israel.

He said evidence will show that Mr. Ayyad was the author of the letter and that his saliva was found on the envelope.

Legal experts say the defence will have a difficult time winning an acquittal because of the large amount of scientific and circumstantial evidence linking their clients to the blast.

But the lawyers are expected to argue that ties to their clients are tenuous and that the prosecution is trying to win convictions through guilt by association.

They were indicted for allegedly carrying out the bombing and for the resulting deaths and injuries. If convicted they face a possible maximum term of life in prison.

Abdul Shafi ready to quit active politics

AMMAN (R) — Chief Palestinian peace negotiator Haidar Abdul Shafi said Tuesday he was reaching out to hardline opposition groups and would quit if Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat did not listen to critics of the PLO's deal with Israel.

The Gaza physician, who gave a voice to the Palestinians at the opening of peace talks in Madrid two years ago, said his decision would hinge on talks with Mr. Arafat this week and meetings with the opposition to see if there was any common ground.

"If I reach an accord on unity maybe I will stay on... but most probably I will retire," said Mr. Abdul Shafi, who looks younger than his 74 years.

He told Reuters that the previous round of negotiations in Washington where delegates were sidelined while Mr. Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin sealed a secretly-negotiated accord on Palestinian self-rule was probably his last.

The veteran nationalist who boycotted the historic signing of the peace pact in Washington last month believes the agreement puts the Palestinians at risk of never regaining a homeland.

Other prominent Palestinians have criticised the accord. But few have the moral weight of Dr. Abdul Shafi, who helped found the PLO and was a pillar of the banned group through the years when he suffered house arrest and exile.

At Madrid, he helped transform the world's image of Palestinians from international terrorists and stone-throwing mobs in a dignified address eloquently stating the Palestinian's case for a homeland after 45 years of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Dr. Abdul Shafi said he

accepts that the agreement cannot be changed but worries that if Mr. Arafat does not take into account opposition views it will further split the PLO and lead it into further concessions in negotiations to implement the accord.

"I am trying to find the middle way between Arafat and the opposition... the situation demands this," said Dr. Abdul Shafi, who for years was one of the PLO's chief's staunchest supporters.

Dr. Abdul Shafi said he was meeting Amman-based leaders of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Nayef Hawatmeh's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). He will meet Hamas leaders in Gaza.

All three groups have vowed to try to foil the PLO-Israel accord, leaders of the PFLP and Hawatmeh's DFLP, two of the biggest PLO factions, have suspended their membership on the organisation's governing executive committee in protest against the U.S.-brokered peace process.

Dr. Abdul Shafi said he would try to convince them to take a constructive opposition role in getting a better deal rather than discrediting Mr. Arafat if the PLO leader agreed to listen to their concerns.

"We have an agreement and many of its aspects are bad and negative but we have to decide how to face it," Dr. Abdul Shafi said, calling for a unified front to decide the future of the pact.

"I want to see whether the opposition is ready for this if they are then I have to ask Mr. Arafat for practical steps to convince the opposition that he is serious in abiding by the principle of the democratic process," he said. "We have to abide by the voice of the majority."

Amnesty secures Arafat pledge to respect rights

LONDON (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has pledged that any future Palestinian entity will respect human rights, Amnesty International said Tuesday.

The London-based human rights organisation said that Mr. Arafat had told an Amnesty delegation in Tunis on Saturday: "The PLO is committed to respect all standards and to incorporate them fully into Palestinian legislation."

He also promised to set up an institution charged with monitoring respect for human rights, which would be "independent and protected from any interference."

Amnesty stressed the importance of human rights training for law enforcement officials.

In his meeting with Amnesty International, Mr. Arafat also acknowledged the fundamental rights of local — including Palestinian — and international human rights organisations in protecting and promoting human rights. He stressed the readiness of the PLO to fully cooperate with them, Amnesty said.

The Amnesty International delegation learned that the PLO has noted the annex to Resolution 192/54 adopted by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights on National Institutions for the promotion and protection of

human rights, and was working to set up a Palestinian national human institution for human rights.

"I am very much concerned that this institution be independent and protected from any interference," said Mr. Arafat. On Sunday he issued a decree formally establishing this new Palestinian institution.

Amnesty International stressed the importance of the rapid introduction of human rights training for law enforcement officials and human rights education in schools and universities. It welcomed the readiness of the PLO to give priority to such training and educational programme.

Amnesty International's discussion in Tunis followed a similar visit the previous week to Israel and the occupied territories, where Amnesty International delegates met Israeli and Palestinian officials as well as members of human rights groups.

Amnesty International stressed the need for both sides to fully implement international human rights standards in the context of the agreements to be negotiated on the occupied territories. "Human rights violations on a large scale have been a daily occurrence in these territories for far too long," said Amnesty International. "Today is an opportunity to change this situation and start building a better future."

Somalia braced for clash

(Continued from page 1) were being held close to Gen. Aidede to ward off possible reprisal attacks.

More U.S. troops and heavy armour headed for Somalia Tuesday.

The troops from the 24th infantry division (mechanised) left from their base at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

"The morale of the troops is excellent," said Major Kelly Fitzpatrick as the reinforcements began their trip to Africa. "They are very eager."

Defence Secretary Les Aspin ordered the reinforcements — 220 troops and several M1-A1 tanks, armoured vehicles, and two more helicopter gunships — to give added protection to the 4,700 U.S. troops that are part of a 28,000-member U.N. force in Somalia.

The Italian news agency ANSA said Gen. Aidede meanwhile effectively warned Mr. Clinton that any plan to boost the American military presence in Somalia will only hurt peace prospects.

ANSA said Gen. Aidede issued the warning in a radio broadcast on Monday night.

"Sending more forces and weapons to the country on the part of the United Nations will not serve peace but worsen the situation," an ANSA report quoted Gen. Aidede as saying in the 20-minute broadcast.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher said U.S. troops would not leave Somalia until they had established "a secure

environment."

Mr. Christopher said in an interview on Public Television: "This is a time for us to be steady, to continue to establish security there." He added: "Until we finish that job we shouldn't speak about leaving, especially tonight."

In San Francisco, President Clinton expressed deep sorrow over the deaths of the 12 U.S. troops and said the United States would take steps to protect its forces in Somalia.

"I am just not satisfied that the American soldiers who are there have the protection they need under present circumstances. So I have authorised... a modest increase to get some armoured protection for them."

He said: "This is not to signify some huge new commitment or offensive at this time. But I'm just not satisfied that the American soldiers that are there have the protection they need under present circumstances."

Referring to U.S. captives, he said: "We have... issued the sternest warning that if anything happens to them inconsistent with that, the United States, not the United Nations, the United States will view this matter very gravely and take appropriate action."

On Capitol Hill, reaction was sharp to the American deaths — which brought to at least 23 the number of U.S. troops killed in action in Somalia. Four others have died from accidental and other causes,

COLUMN

Chinese leaders return to school to study Deng

PEKING (AFP) — Cabinet ministers and provincial leaders have been rounded up and sent back to school to hone their allegiance to paramount leader Deng Xiaoping's reforms, China's state-run media reported Tuesday. The study session opened here Monday at the Central Party School, the Communist Party's official training ground, with 45 ministers and provincial governors in attendance. Hu Jintao, one of the seven members of the party's all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee, told the class that implementing Deng's theory of building "socialism with Chinese characteristics" was a matter of the "future and destiny of the party, state and Chinese nation," the reports said. Referring to major contradictions arising from China's shift to a market economy, Mr. Hu said that "in solving the problems, it will not do to follow old ways of thinking or to adopt old methods formulated under the system of central planning." Mr. Deng, who launched China's reform and opening policy 15 years ago, recorded perhaps his greatest triumph last year when the party formally decided to shift to a market economy. But the shift has contributed to the central government's loss of fiscal control over the provinces and has met with resistance from cabinet ministries unwilling to relinquish powers held during four decades of central planning.

German priest jailed for rape of 12-year-old

AUGSBURG, Germany (R) — A German Roman Catholic priest was jailed for four years for forcing a 12-year-old girl into sex at least 45 times. The Youth Protection Chamber of the regional court in the southern city of Augsburg heard that the priest, now 65, in February 1982 drugged the child with communion wine before stripping and raping her for the first time as she lay unconscious. The priest, whom the court did not name, made photographs of his victim and used these to blackmail her into having sex with him whenever he summoned her, up until August 1983. The girl was 12 when the attacks began. In 1984 she tried in desperation to poison herself, lying down in her attacker's church to die. But she was found and recovered in hospital. She only broke her silence earlier this year, when she heard that the priest had sacked another young woman from her job as nursery school teacher for cohabiting with a man, and decided to speak out against his hypocrisy, the court heard. Her decision to go to the police was also prompted by obscene phone calls which she began receiving and which she believed could be coming from her attacker. In sentencing, Judge Hans Hanne attacked church authorities, saying they had found out about the sex attacks no later than December 1984 and should have gone to the police then.

Brazil deputies 'cost \$30,000 to \$50,000'

BRASILIA (AFP) — Corrupt Brazilian deputies will switch party allegiance to win \$30,000 and \$50,000, authorities said in announcing plans to investigate bribery of legislators. Evidence of bribery came to light when the tiny Social Democratic Party allegedly offered deputies between \$30,000 and \$50,000 to join them so the party would have enough legislators to run a presidential candidate next year. The party had six deputies, well short of the 15 it needed to field a candidate under a new electoral law passed last week. But in less than one week, the Social Democrats were able to win over 14 legislators for a total of 20. Deputies who turned down bribes reported the attempts, and the president of the chamber of deputies, Innocencio Oliveira, ordered an investigation. But opinion here differs on whether taking bribes is illegal, or just bad form. The chief magistrate of the chamber of deputies, Fernando Lyra, said deputies who took bribes could lose their posts or even be sentenced to prison terms. But the president of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, Sepulveda Pertence, said those opposed to bribery had no legal recourse.

